WEDNESDAY
July 5, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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BJP REJIG

Nadda appoints new chiefs in four States

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WEST BANK OPERATION

Israel presses on, Palestinian attacker wounds 8

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FOOD INFLATION

PM is the *mehangaai* man, says Congress

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DATA POINT

Karnataka hit hard by OMSS discontinuation

It had bought over 50% of the rice in 5 of 8 years

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RISING TO THE OCCASION

Gurpreet's heroics give India SAFF title

SPORT » PAGE 15

India lodges protest with Canada over pro-Khalistan posters

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Online posters against the killing of a Khalistani campaigner targeted Indian diplomats

The Ministry of External Affairs on Tuesday summoned the High Commissioner of Canada, Cameron MacKay, and lodged a protest after campaigners for Khalistan put out posters targeting Indian diplomats in Canada. The top Canadian diplomat stationed in India was summoned after posters circulated online named two leading Indian diplomats stationed in Canada.

The posters called upon pro-Khalistan sympathisers to assemble in Toronto on July 8 in protest against the killing of a leading campaigner for Khalistan, Hardeep Singh Nijjar. The poster that carried the words "Kill India" also displayed the photographs of Indian High Commissioner Sanjay Kumar Verma and Consul-General in Toronto Apoorva Srivastava and the words "Faces of Shaheed Nijjar's Killers in Toronto".

The posters urged sympathisers to take out similar marches towards Indian missions in other major western cities on July 8. All such posters carried photographs of Indian diplomats in Canada, the U.S. and Australia. The posters for Australia and the U.S. carried the faces of Indian High Commissioner to Australia Manpreet Vohra and Indian Ambassador to the U.S. Taranjit Singh Sandhu. An attempt was made to set fire to the Indian mission in San Francisco on Monday.

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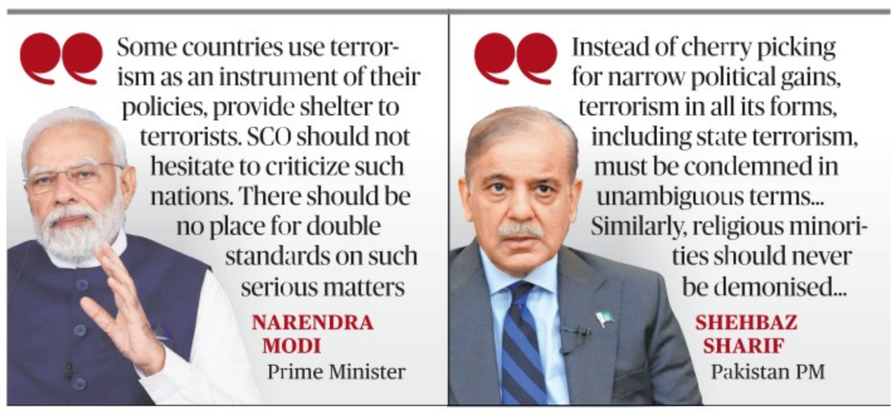
SCO calls for multipolar world order as Iran joins grouping

Indicating a lack of consensus, India stays out of statements on economic cooperation and on China's Belt and Road Initiative, owing to projects in PoK; SCO calls for cooperation on digital payments and countering radicalisation

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI


Some countries use terrorism as an instrument of their policies, provide shelter to terrorists. SCO should not hesitate to criticize such nations. There should be no place for double standards on such serious matters
NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister
Instead of cherry picking for narrow political gains, terrorism in all its forms, including state terrorism, must be condemned in unambiguous terms... Similarly, religious minorities should never be demonised...
SHEHBAZ SHARIF
Pakistan PM

The formation of a "more representative" and multipolar world order is in the global interest, leaders of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation said at a virtual summit chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday.

The grouping's decision to induct Iran as its ninth and latest member was one of a number of agreements signed at the summit. However, India, who hosted the summit for the first time, refused to join other members on paragraphs relating to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the joint statement, and stayed out of a joint statement on SCO Economic Development Strategy 2030, indicating a lack of consensus in the grouping. Mr. Modi also took sharp aim at Pakistan for cross-border terrorism, and at China for connectivity projects that do not respect sovereign boundaries.

The SCO grouping now comprises China, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

The agreements signed include the New Delhi Declaration, outlining areas of cooperation between SCO countries; a joint statement on countering radicalisation; and one on digital transformation, where India offered to share expertise on digital payment interfaces. In a reference to sanctions on Russia and Iran, SCO members jointly criticised non-UN sanctions as "incompatible with the principles of international law", which have a "negative impact" on other countries. SCO members also agreed to explore the use of "national currencies" for payments within the grouping, which would circumvent international dollar-based payments.

However, the declaration noted that only "interested member states" signed the economic strategy statement, while leaving India out of the paragraphs supporting China's BRI. India opposes the BRI over its inclusion of projects in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

"Better connectivity not only enhances mutual trade but also fosters mutual trust. However, in these efforts, it is essential to uphold the basic principles of the SCO charter, particularly respecting the sovereignty and regional integrity of the Member States," Mr. Modi said.

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NEARBY

44 overspeeding vehicles booked

BENGALURU
Cracking down on overspeeding motorists on Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway, the Ramanagara police on Tuesday booked 44 vehicles crossing the permissible limits of 100 kmph. » Page 3

Uproar in legislature

BENGALURU
Both Houses of the legislature plunged into pandemonium on Tuesday, after the Opposition BJP staged a dharna alleging that the Congress government had "deceived" people by "not implementing" the five guarantees. » Page 4

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 7

Promising July

Bouncing back: Heavy rain lashing Kottayam in Kerala on Tuesday. After deficit rainfall in June in many parts of India, the monsoon made a strong comeback in the State in July, prompting authorities to declare a holiday for educational institutions. VISHNU PRATHAP

In SC, Uddhav camp says Speaker delaying disqualification process

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Uddhav Thackeray camp in the Supreme Court on Tuesday accused Maharashtra Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar of deliberately delaying disqualification proceedings against Chief Minister Eknath Shinde for defection.

The petition, filed in the top court amid a churn in Maharashtra politics following Ajit Pawar's split from the NCP to join the Shinde Cabinet as Deputy Chief Minister, said Speakers should "rise above their political affiliations" while performing the duties of the office. The Thackeray faction said Mr. Narwekar's conduct had been in "brazen disregard" of his constitutional duties as a neutral arbiter under the Tenth Schedule (anti-defection law) of the Constitution.

"It is imperative for this court to direct the Speaker to decide the disqualification petitions filed by the petitioner against delinquent members of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly expeditiously and within a time-bound manner, or, alternatively, to decide the disqualification petitions itself," a 406-page petition filed by Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sunil Prabhu urged.

The Thackeray loyalists referred to the court's own 2020 judgment in *Keisham Meghachandra Singh v Manipur Legislative Assembly*, which had laid down that disqualification petitions under the Tenth Schedule should normally be decided within a period of three months from the date of their filing.

> It is imperative for this court to direct the Speaker to decide the disqualification petitions...expeditiously
> SHIV SENA (UBT) PETITION

The petition said Mr. Narwekar's inaction amounts to bias as it effectively permits Mr. Shinde's illegal continuance in office when disqualification proceedings for defection are hanging over him. The Speaker's conduct should be "perceptibly impartial" while exercising the powers of constitutional adjudication under the Tenth Schedule.

Mr. Prabhu, represented by advocates Amit Anand Tiwari and Nishant Patil, said the court, in its May 11 judgment on the Thackeray-Shinde battle for control over Shiv Sena, had placed its trust in Mr. Narwekar to impartially hear and decide the anti-defection proceedings against the Shinde camp.

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Man, who was on the run after killing girlfriend, arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The police said the accused was enraged as the girl had refused to marry him

Nearly a month after Gurijala Arpith, 29, was on the run after allegedly strangulating his 23-year-old girlfriend to death in her flat at Jeevan Bima Nagar, the police tracked him down to Whitefield on Tuesday.

The police said Arpith had strangled Akanksha and smothered her with a pillow.

He even made a futile attempt to make it look like a case of suicide by trying to hang her with a veil from the ceiling fan.

However, unable to execute the plan, he had dumped the body and escaped.

The police, who obtained his identity card and phone from the scene of crime, tried to track him down to Delhi to where he had boarded a train. However, on the way, Arpith got down in Bhopal and went to Assam where he worked with a roadside vendor.

The accused even tried to contact his friends to seek financial help, but he could not get money as he had stopped using his debit card and mobile phone fearing that he will be tracked.

The police had kept a tab on his family, workplace, and friends.

After the police got to know about his location, they went to Assam, but the accused had by then returned to Vijayawada from where he came to Whitefield to meet his friend in the hope of getting money.

Arpith told the police that Akanksha was in a relationship with him till they worked in Hyderabad, and after she relocated to Bengaluru, she was in another relationship.

Akanksha had reportedly refused to marry Arpith. Enraged by this, Arpith killed her. The accused has been taken into custody for further investigation.

After HC delivers split verdict on Senthilbalaji's arrest, SC refuses ED petition to take over case

Krishnadas Rajagopal
Mohamed Imranullah S.
NEW DELHI/CHENNAI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to entertain a plea by the Enforcement Directorate to immediately transfer and decide the question of custody of Tamil Nadu Minister V. Senthilbalaji in a money-laundering case linked to the cash-for-jobs scam, following a split verdict by the Madras High Court.

Instead, a Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Dipankar Datta requested the Madras High Court Chief Justice to expeditiously constitute a larger Bench to hear the case.

The hearing in the top court came within hours of a Division Bench of the Madras High Court delivering a split verdict on a *habeas corpus* petition filed by Mr. Senthilbalaji's wife, with one judge declaring that the Minister's June 14 arrest in a money-laundering case was illegal, and ordering him to be released, and the other holding that the petition was not maintainable.

After the pronouncement of the diametrically opposite verdicts, the matter was ordered to be placed before High Court Chief Justice S.V. Gangapurwala to name a third judge who will hear the case afresh, and whose decision will finally tilt the verdict by a majority of 2:1.

V. Senthilbalaji

The Minister remains in a private hospital now, in judicial custody.

'Risk on the rise'

In the Supreme Court, Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for the Central agency, urged the Bench to authoritatively decide the "neat questions of law" as to whether a *habeas corpus* petition would stand after a judicial order of remand, and if the time spent by Mr. Senthilbalaji under medical treatment in a private hospital should be excluded from the period of custody allowed to the ED.

"He is an influential person. Every day that passes increases the risk of tampering of evidence in the case. The damage would be irreversible," Mr. Mehta stressed.

'Cannot bypass HC'

Appearing for Mr. Senthilbalaji, senior advocate Kapil Sibal and advocate Amit Anand Tiwari objected to Mr. Mehta's suggestion to transfer the case to the Supreme Court.

"How can you bypass the High Court? How can this request even be entertained? A three-judge Bench has to be constituted. They have to decide first," they submitted.

Agreeing with Mr. Sibal, the top court asked the High Court Chief Justice "to place the matter before a larger Bench at the earliest and further to request the assigned Bench to decide the case as early as possible".

The Bench then adjourned the case to July 24, noting that the "pendency of the special leave petition will have no bearing on the proceedings before the High Court".

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» PAGE 10

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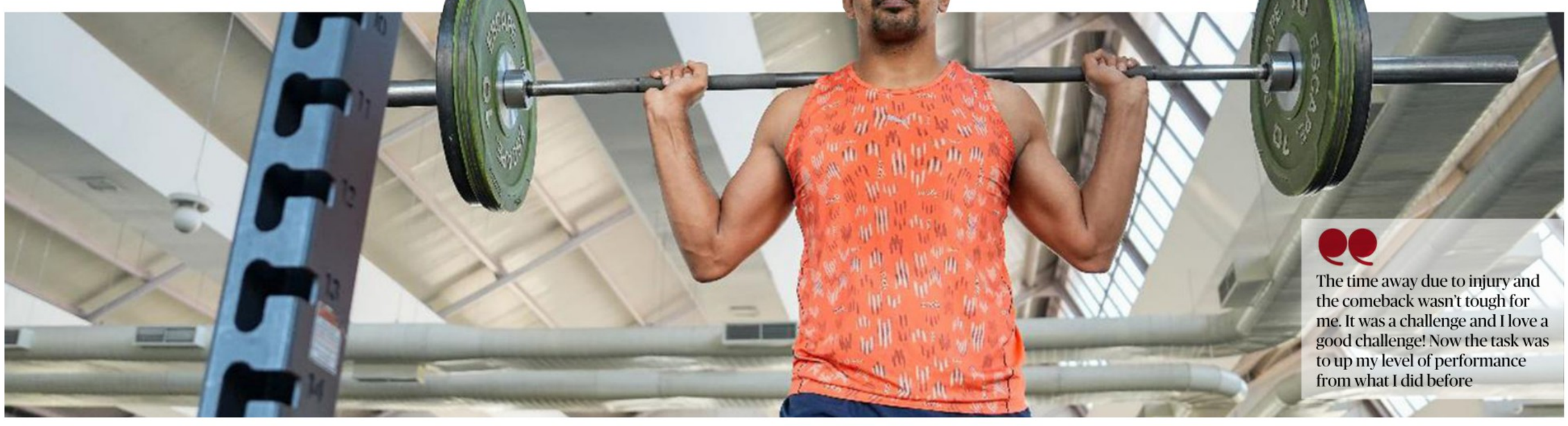

> The time away due to injury and the comeback wasn't tough for me. It was a challenge and I love a good challenge! Now the task was to up my level of performance from what I did before

Back on the mat, Pawan determined to 'bring home the gold we lost'

The most expensive player in PKL history, bought by Tamil Thalaivas for ₹2.26 crore, was thrown out of action after sustaining an ACL injury during the opener of Pro Kabaddi League season 9; here's how a curated rehab and exercise regime helped the star get to the best shape of his life

Lavanya Lakshmi Narayanan

If you go back and watch India's matches from the recent Asian Kabaddi Championships, you'll notice Pawan Sehrawat everywhere. He was raiding, lining up in a chain defence, attempting super tackles, giving raiders instructions before they crossed into opponent territory and more.

It is hard to imagine how someone so involved in a 40-minute kabaddi encounter spent an entire season off the mat after sustaining an injury inside the first 10 minutes of the opening fixture of Pro Kabaddi League season 9.

Pawan missed out on galvanising a new team (Tamil Thalaivas), and a slew of records. All that FOMO (fear of missing out) was channelled in his performances in Busan, South Korea. Pawan was crucial to India winning the gold medal, registering two Super 10s in the tournament while acting as a pivot in attack and defence.

However, a few months back, he underwent a right knee operation after sustaining an ACL injury during the PKL season opener against Gujarat Giants.

Battling FOMO

"I am an athlete, so I had to balance both the itches – of wanting to recover carefully and properly and battling the urge to get onto the mat," Pawan tells The Hindu. "My injury had changed the course of results a bit. I felt I had to find a way to play. I wanted to put on a band-aid and go and play. But it was not to be."

Pawan was inspired by javelin Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra's recovery from a potentially career-ending elbow injury and decided to approach the people who had helped the fellow Haryana athlete.

"I mailed JSW from my end. The team here sorted my own personal support staff – with a physio, a trainer and a nutritionist whose backup continued even after I came home. They have a huge hand in my return to the mat," Pawan explains.

The 26-year-old is snapping at the heels of superstar raiders like Pardeep Narwal, Maninder Singh, Deepak Niwas Hooda and Rahul Chaudhari in how he hoards points game after game. Pawan is currently fifth in the all-time raiding points standings with 987 to his credit in 105 PKL games.

"At the Inspire Institute of Sports in Bellary, I was assigned to Dinesh and Manish – my trainer and physio. The priorities for my time there were two-fold – one to get me back to my old fitness levels and, the other, to take that fitness a notch higher," Pawan says.

When *The Hindu* caught up with Pawan before PKL 7 in Chennai, he told us just how much he hated working out in the gym.

"*Mujhe gym pasand nahin hai* – the idea of exercising on the treadmill or working with the dumbbell in a small area. I like the outdoors better. If I get a park or an open space, I will spend my time running there instead."

Today, Pawan is easily in the best shape of his life because of a curated rehab and exercise regimen which includes barbell squats and deadlifts in the gym and sprints on the track.

"I have never done weight training as part of my routine before," Pawan explains. "When I asked them about the benefits, they would say you'll see the benefits on the mat.

"We worked on my core and found that parts like my shoulders were weak. So, we picked them out and worked on them specifically. I understood how important strengthening my core was to my jump," Pawan, who is called the hi-flyer for his evasive frog jumps, says. "Working on my core made these jumps easier. Manish worked on my speed – to match the speed of my feet and footwork with my mind."

Pawan has made a few friends during his time at IIS – with triple jumper Praveen Chithravel and boxer Sachin Siwach. The banter extends to their workouts, with Praveen often calling Pawan for a round of jumps.

"I have not tried the triple jump yet (laughs)," Pawan says sheepishly. "Our bonding has been fantastic – among Praveen, Sachin and me. Praveen looks lightweight but he lifts a lot more than I do. He is a great guy, very punctual about his routine. So, there is a plan to do this (a triple jump challenge) when the Bengaluru camp begins. Either he comes over or I will head to Bellary, and we will collaborate on something fun," he adds.

One consistent pain point for Pawan before a PKL season or tournament was making weight. "The limit is 85kg and I was always around the 86 to 88kg mark. I used to run and starve to reduce weight, but I now have a nutritionist to help me sort that part out. I was in touch with her until just before the Asian Championships," Pawan explains.

"The boys around me would wonder who I was constantly messaging and sending photos of every meal to, but it helped. She would ask me for a plan and ensure I stuck to it. This tournament was the first time I made weight without starving myself and losing energy," he adds.

The camp in Patna before heading to South Korea helped Pawan to shake off the cobwebs.

"The challenge for me was the return to training and workouts as a team. I was working out and doing physical work before but when you are doing that individually, you can take rests according to your pace, but not when you're in a team set up. This was a fresh experience after the six to seven-month gap due to injury and the subsequent rehab. That was a win I savoured for a while," Pawan explains.

Back in his Bengaluru Bulls days, erstwhile captain Rohit Kumar, in addition to rallying his forces on the mat, also had the responsibility of keeping Pawan calm in pressure situations. In a 'how life comes full circle' situation, Pawan took on that role for the juniors in the team during the Asian Championships. In India's matches against Iran in Busan, he was constantly speaking to Aslam Inamdar, who tends to get a little antsy in do-or-die raids.

This element of patience aside, Pawan also showed his aggressive side, taking on the Iranians when they misjudged their lines or asked for points that he felt weren't there, enough to draw comparisons with former India cricket captain Virat Kohli. "I don't mean to draw that comparison. If something is wrong and I see it happening on the field, I will speak up. If someone is coming for my team, I will react."

Pawan does love his cricket heroes though, and emphasises his adoration for Kohli's friend and former teammate A.B. De Villiers. "Mr. 360," is the first thing he says when ABD's name comes up. "He is able to hit shots all around the park. I want that in my kabaddi. There shouldn't be an element of the game I can't do," he says.

Revenge, retrieval and rigour

Another emotion that binds this Indian squad together is disappointment. The wounds from the defeat at the 2018 Asian Games semifinals to Iran are still raw. While Pawan insists that India is not focusing on any one team, every statement of intent from the raider is about 'bringing the gold medal back.'

"I was in the Bengaluru Bulls camp in 2018 when India lost that final. Watching those men break down and cry was a horrible memory that is etched in my mind to this day. I don't know if they've ever sobbed like that again, but that shouldn't have happened," he remembers.

"It is not only about Iran. We won't take it easy with any team. We need to make a statement that we are better prepared than before and we're out to regain that medal we lost in 2018. The 12, whoever it may be, will give our 200% at the Asian Games.

"The message from my circle is simple – bring home the gold we lost."

THE GIST

- Pawan began his kabaddi career as a right defender in the cover and corner positions. When he joined the Railways, all the defensive positions had veteran Indian players occupying them but the side did not have a solid raider. Pawan filled the gap in a move that proved career-altering
- The star raider began his PKL journey with Bengaluru Bulls under coach Randhir Sehrawat in 2016 and had a good run as a raider. After an underwhelming second season with the Bulls, he was then picked by Gujarat Fortunegiants but did not get too many opportunities. He returned to the Bulls in season 6 marking the start of his dominant run in the league

'MANX MISSILE' SHOOTING FOR THE STARS

Mark Cavendish is widely considered one of the greatest road sprinters in the world of cycling. Not for nothing is he nicknamed the "Manx Missile". The year began with some uncertainty regarding the 37-year-old's future – his deal with B&B Hotels-KTM fell through and he signed his final season with Astana Qazaqstan at the very last minute. His swansong began with a spectacular win in the final stage of the Giro d'Italia. It set the stage for the Tour de France. He currently has 34 Tour stage wins, tied with Eddy Merckx.
"Can you imagine winning a 35th Tour de France stage in the British champion's jersey? It'd be really beautiful," he had said last June.
With one win this year, Cavendish has the opportunity to create history. GETTY IMAGES

Uma Chetry's journey from humble beginnings in Assam to India colours

Shayan Acharya

Uma Chetry was barely a couple of years old when she started playing cricket at her residence in Bokakhat in Assam's Golaghat district. While her elder siblings would play the sport on the kutcha roads of the village, she would emulate them indoors.

Using a stick as a makeshift bat, Uma would send big round potatoes whizzing past unsuspecting family members as she hit fours and sixes at will. When she turned three, her mother Dipa bought her a plastic bat and a ball, and Uma made it a point to practice everyday.

"We soon realised that she was fond of cricket. She would play with the local boys of her age and often discuss a thing or two with her elder brothers," Dipa tells *Sportstar*.

Back then, Dipa did not imagine that someday Uma would pursue the sport and don the National colours. With her inclusion in the India senior women's squad for the tour of Bangladesh, the Chetrys' hard work and determination has paid off.

"It's an incredible feeling to see your daughter making the State proud. Things were not easy for her,

Inspiration: Uma's selection will serve as a boost for young women cricketers.

but with sheer determination, she continued chasing her dreams," Dipa says.

Dipa played a significant role in her daughter's journey too. With Uma's father Lok Bahadur being a small-time farmer, there would be times when the family - Uma and her four brothers - would struggle to make ends meet. But that wasn't a deterrent for the youngster.

Even though not many in the village took her decision of playing with boys in the right spirit, Dipa encouraged her daughter to follow her passion."I did not want her to stop playing just because she was a girl," Dipa says.

Soon, Uma started training under local coaches - Raja Rahman and Mehboob Alam - and would travel far to train regularly.

"I also told her that she should not take her studies for granted," the mother adds. So, in the mornings, Uma would train for a while and then travel to Bokakhat Hindi High School, and again play once the school was over.

Around 2011, she caught the eye of Ajoy Sarma, treasurer of the Golaghat District Sports Association. "We saw her play with the boys who were slightly older than her and we were quite impressed with her," Sarma says.

Sarma pushed her case and Uma was on the Assam Cricket Association radar. By 2017, she was part of the State team.

Her determined show earned Uma a spot in the India team for the Emerging Asia Cup in Hong Kong as well.

The wicketkeeper-batter's journey has just begun and she hopes to make every opportunity count, onwards and upwards!

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Public are informed that my client has intent to purchase a Property bearing **Site No.98, Present BBMP Katha SI No. 1625,** Old House List Katha No.1373, formed out of Sy.No.122/2, Situated at **Hormavu Village,** K. R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Presently comes under the jurisdiction of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Bangalore, Ward No.25, measuring **East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally Measuring 1200 Sq.feet,** and bounded on the:

East by : Private Property (Site No.8)
West by : Road,
North by : Property No.99
South by : Property No.97

from its present Owner **Sri. EARGA SAMPATH KUMAR REDDY.,** S/o Sri E. Narayana Reddy, he having acquired the vide registered sale deed Vide registered Vide registered Sale Deed dated: 07/04/2021. Vide registered as Document No HLS-1-00098/2021-2022, of Book 1. Measuring measuring **East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet totally Measuring 1200 Sq.feet.,** Registered before the Office of the Sub- Registrar, Shivajinagar (Ulsoor), Bangalore.

Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/claims with documentary evidence within **10 days** from this day to the undersigned. In the absence of any claims within the above said period. It shall be deemed that there are no such claims or that if there are any claims and they have not been made, it shall be deemed to have been waived.

P. NAGAMUNI REDDY,
Advocate, SNN Associates,
No.248, 2nd Floor, 10th Main, 1st Block, 100 Feet Road, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru 560043, Land Mark Near Horamavu Signal, Above Canara Bank & HDFC ATM.
M : 9945159840 / 9916167356

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public are hereby notified that our client **Sri. ANIL KUMAR H G** son of Sri. Gangadharan H R., aged about 50 years, residing at Flat No. B-309, 3rd Floor, K V Orchids, Sri Sri Matha Amruthanandmayi Road, Ullal Main Road, Nagadevanahalli, Bengaluru-560056 is intending to purchase the Immoveable Property described in the Schedule hereunder from **Sri. ALLAMA PRABHU SWAMY** son of Sri. M G Murugesh, aged about 47 years, **Smt. MANJULA K B** aged about 42 years, **Kumari. PRANTHI. K B.,** aged about 17 years and Kumari. **VIBHA M A.,** aged about 9 years, wife and children of Sri. Allama Prabhu Swamy respectively and the children are minors, represented by natural guardian, father **Sri. Allama Prabhu Swamy,** all are residing at No. 53, 4 th Cross, Shankaramatt Road, Fort Mohalla, Mysuru-570004 as per Agreement of Sale dated 30.06.2023 and have stating that the Schedule Property is an ancestral property and have Partitioned between the joint family members under the Registered Partition Deed by allotting the share of Sri. Allama Prabhu Swmay.

Any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or having any right, title, interest or ownership or any other right or claim in the Schedule Property shall lodge his/her/their objections and/or claims with the under signed along with supporting documentary evidence ***within Ten (10) days*** from the date of this publication. Any objections and/or claims and/or response received thereafter will not be binding on our client and our client will proceed to purchase Schedule Property as if there are no claim/s of objection/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

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West by : Government Channel
North by : Land of Sri. Basavanayaka
South by : Land of Sri. T N Nagendra

Sd/-
G. RAMAKRISHNA & KAMALA LAKSHMI,
Advocates & Legal Consultants,
ELiiTE ASSOCiiATES,
No. 110, 2 nd Floor, 2 nd A' Main, 1st Cross, RHCS Layout, Annapoorneshwarinagar, Shrigandhada Kaval, Bengaluru-560091.
Tel: 080-23185483,
Mob: 9740000351/9740000352,

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. 15/2023
Dated: 30.06.2023

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender through IREPS only for supply of following items:

Description in Brief: Item Type Item Supply: 110 Volt 40Ah Lead Acid Low Maintenance Battery Set consisting of 55 Nos cells (2 Volt each) with tubular positive & pasted negative plates assembled in PPCP container with microporous vent plug cum sealed float guide with inter cell, end cell, inter row, inter tier connectors, stainless steel fasteners, in dry uncharged condition complete to RDSO Specification No. RDSO/PE/SPEC/TL/0040 (REV.2) 2021 along with all accessories including MS Battery Stand, Electrolyte (electrolyte in separate non returnable containers), maintenance tools as per para No. 11.

(Tender No.: L8235990) (Qty: 24 sets)

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 10:30 hrs. of 26.07.2023**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Materials Manager
PUB/220/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24 **Bengaluru**
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING DIVISION KALABURAGI

(Office of the Executive Engineer, H & FWD Engineering Division,
PWD Quarters No: 110-D, Opp: HKES Womens Polytechnic Iwan-E-Shahi Colony
Kalaburagi-585102, Phone/Fax No-08472 – 241982. E –mail-ee.khsdrp.klb@gmail.com

No: HFW/EE/DIVN/KLB/AE-1/TCC-GIMS/ T.G/2023-24/158 Date: 03-07-2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, H&FWD, Engineering Division, Kalaburagi invite tenders in Two Cover Document system from eligible Class-III & Above contractors registered in KPWD, in kppp portal for **Repairs & Renovation (Wall Tiles, Toilet, Safety Net, Grill work & Collapsible Steel Shutters Etc) to Trauma Cate Center in GIMS Campus Kalaburagi,** of the Health and Family Welfare Department. Project Cost-Rs. **80.00 lakhs** and stipulated period for completion-02 months including monsoon-(Refer kppp-portal for the details).
Calendar of Events: 1) Last date for receipt of tenders : **10-07-2023 upto 16:30 hrs.,** 2) Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids) : **11-07-2023 at 17:00 hrs.**

The tender details can be downloaded from the kppp portal platform. Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and Earnest Money Deposit and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested eligible contractors shall register on the kppp portal platform to participate in this tender.

NOTE: 1. All the rights are reserved by the under signed for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids /individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. 2. Henceforth, any changes in the schedule/contents will not be published through news papers and further changes will be updated only on e-procurement portal.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIPR/Kalaburagi/92/MC&A/2023-24 **H & FWD Engineering Division, Kalaburagi**

Key professional positions for PMU, Government of Uttar Pradesh

Applications invited for a project management unit (PMU) for implementation of **Matribhumi**, a flagship scheme of Government of Uttar Pradesh (GoUP) from **bright aspiring professionals for 5 key positions**. The PMU would work under Panchayati Raj Department (PRD) and be responsible for steering implementation of the scheme. The selected candidates would be offered best-in-industry compensation and on-the-job perks. Interested candidates are invited to send their detailed resume **by or before July 15, 2023** at email: matribhumi.up@gmail.com.

For details, please refer to https://panchayatiraj.up.nic.in

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
Public Works (South) Division, Kolhapur Tarabai Park,
Opp.Residency Club, Kolhapur-416 003

Outward No. AB/G-34/ 2707 /2023
Date : 28/06/2023
Phone No. 0231-2650042, Fax-0231-2650140
E-mail:- southkolhapur.ee@mahapwd.gov.in

P.W.D.GR.No.CT.2017/pra.kra.8/Bldg 2, Dt 12 Apr 2017

E - TENDER NOTICE NO. 12 for 2023-24

Executive Engineer, P. W. (South) Division, Kolhapur, on behalf of Public Works Department., Govt. of Maharashtra, invites offers from the contractors fulfilling the eligibility criteria mentioned in the **Tender Document** for the following works on e-tender platform. The tender forms (B-1Type) can be downloaded from Govt. of Maharashtra, website **http://mahatenders.gov.in The Executive Engineer, P.W. (South) Division, Kolhapur reserves right to accept or reject any offer. Any Conditional offers will not be accepted.**

Sr. No.	Name Of Works	From of Tender	Estimate of cost.Rs. in laksh.	Earnest Money Rs. Rs..	Cost of tender From Fee Rs.	Time Limit for Complation	Class of contractor (PWD Registration)
1	One Year Maintenance to Vengurla Amboli District Border to Shirgaon Nganwadi to Belgaum State Border road. S.H.No.180, Km. 67/200 to 88/800, Taluka- Chandgad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	56.81	57,000/-	1200/-	12 Months	Class-IV-(A) and Above.
2	One Year Maintenance to Vengurla Amboli District Border to Shirgaon Nganwadi to Belgaum State Border road. S.H.No.180, Km. 80/800 to 110/800, Taluka- Chandgad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	60.51	61,000/-	1200/-	12 Months	Class-IV-(A) and Above.
3	One Year Maintenance of Navale Devkandgaon Peranoli Salgaon Ajara road. MDR No.58 Km. 10/00 to 21/800, Taluka-Ajara, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	37.07	38,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V and above.
4	One Year Maintenance of Pal Barve Dindewadi Chimane Zulpewadi road. MDR No.69, Km. 12/500 to 26/500, Taluka-Ajara, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	41.94	42,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V and above.
5	Yearly maintenance of road starts from S.H.179 to Mahalwadi Mhasave Darwad Niplan Konavade Koor Vhanguti Waghapur Murgud road. MDR No.48, Km. 0/00 to 16/700, Taluka-Bhudargad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	29.68	30,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V-(A)and above.
6	One Year Maintenance to S.H.No.189 to Bhadgaon Channekuppi Nool Basarge Halkarni road. MDR No.57 Km. 0/00 to 19/00, Taluka-Gadhinglaj, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	28.97	29,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V-(A)and above.
7	Yearly maintenance of road starts from S.H. 189 to Madilage Bk. Gangapur Palshivane Talemauli Desaiwadi Paal to State Highway No.189 road. MDR No.99 Km. 0/00 to 14/00, Taluka-Bhudargad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	18.53	19,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V-(A)and above.
8	One Year Maintenance to S.H.180 to Patane Phata Ambewadi Motanwadi phata to join S.H.189 road. MDR No.76, Km. 0/00 to 14/800, Taluka-Chandgad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	25.75	26,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V-(A)and above.
9	One Year Maintenance to MDR No.56 to Jarali Dundage Hasurchampu to State border road. MDR No.80 at Km. 0/00 to 8/200, Taluka-Gadhinglaj, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	16.88	17,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V-(A)and above.
10	One year Maintenance to Yamekond Shirsangi Kine Nesari road. MDR No.61 Km. 0/00 to 9/400, Taluka-Ajara, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	21.03	22,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V-(A) and above.
11	One Year Maintenance to Kolhapur Gargoti Gadhinglaj Naganwadi road. S.H.189 Km. 69/00 to 80/275, Taluka-Ajara, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	21.08	22,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V-(A) and above.
12	Yearly maintenance of road starts from MDR No.52 to Navale Devkandgaon Koriwade Pernoli Salgaon Ajara to join S.H.No.188 road. MDR No.58, Km. 0/00 to 0/900, 1/100 to 1/900, 2/100 to 2/600, 3/320 to 5/200, 5/300 to 6/00, 6/150 to 8/700, Taluka- Bhudargad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	19.51	20,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V-(A)and above.
13	Annual Maintenance to road starts from MDR No.41 to Chakreshwarwadi Baradwadi Thikpurli road. MDR No.97, Km. 0/00 10 11/500, Taluka- Radhanagari, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	18.14	19,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V-(A)and above.
14	One Year Maintenance to S.H.180 to Kanur Kurani Gavase Ibhrampur Adakur to join S.H,189 road. MDR No.66 Km. 0/00 to 18/100, Taluka-Chandgad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	16.77	17,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-V-(A)and above.
15	One Year Maintenance of Shrungarwadi Vatangi Arjunwadi Nitture road MDR No.64, Km. 0/00 to 6/500, Taluka-Ajara, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	8.39	9,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-VII and above.
16	Annual Maintainance to Road starts from Ghatagewadi Mirvel Pargad Mankhol Tervan Waghotre road. S.H.187, Km. 14/400 to 38/400, Taluka-Chandgad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	10.83	11,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-VI and above.
17	One Year Maintenance to Gadhinglaj Shendri Hanimnal road. MDR No.77 Km. 0/00 to 7/500, Taluka-Gadhinglaj, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	14.45	15,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-VI and above.
18	Annual Maintenance to Gudawale Khamdale Here Sawarde Shippur Karanjgaon Halkarni road. MDR No.71 Km. 0/00 to 19/100, Taluka-Chandgad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	9.14	10,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-VII and above.
19	Year Maintenance to Solankur Ainy Aategaon rakshadevi Yerandape Nitawade Kadgaon Mamadapur road. MDR No.45 Km. 28/800 to 37/500, Taluka- Bhudargad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	7.32	8,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-VII and above.
20	Annual Maintenance to road starts from S.H.177 to Parkhandale Harapawade Gavashi dhundawade jargi Gariwade Gaganbavada road. MDR No.39, Km. 13/00 to 17/00, Taluka- Radhanagari, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	6.13	7,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-VII and above.
21	Annual Maintanence to road starts from S.H.187 to Isapur Choukul upto District Border road. MDR No.75 Km. 0/00 to 4/400, Taluka-Chandgad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	5.33	6,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-VII and above.
22	One Year Maintenance of Lingnoor Kapashi Maddyal Vadarge Gadhinglaj road. MDR No.51, Km. 22/00 to 29/300, Taluka-Gadhinglaj, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	5.09	6,000/-	600/-	12 Months	Class-VII and above.
23	Annual Maintenance to road Starts from S.H.177 to Malharpeth Sule Kodavade Masurli to join MDR No.34 road. MDR No.26 Km. 17/400 to 20/800, Taluka- Radhanagari, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	2.64	3,000/-	300/-	12 Months	Class-IX and above.
24	One Year maintenance to MDR No.61 to Arjunwadi Chavarewadi Sambre alatwadi to join MDR No.67 road. MDR No.64, Km. 18/500 to 22/00, Taluka- Chandgad, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	1.61	2,000/-	300/-	12 Months	Class-IX and above.
25	One year Maintenance to MDR.61 to Kine Kolindre Batkangale road. MDR No.62, Km. 4/700 to 5/900, Taluka-Gadhinglaj, Dist. Kolhapur	B-1	2.48	3,000/-	300/-	12 Months	Class-IX and above.

E Tender Schdule

Period of download of Tenders	From :- Date. **05/07/2023** to **19/07/2023** at **17.55 pm.**	
Prebid Conference (On line)	-Nil-	
Bid Submission Closing Date of Tenders	Date :- **19/07/2023** at **17.55 hrs**.	
Submssion of Hard Copy (Office Addresses) as on date- 21/07/2023 at 10.00 am	At any of the following places within 72 Hrs. after Bid Submission Closing at office of the 1. Superintending Engineer, Public Works Circle, Kolhapur. 2. Executive Engineer, Public Work Division, Kolhapur, 3. Executive Engineer, Public Work (South) Division Kolhapur	
Place, Time and Date of Bid Opening Date (if possible.).	Date :- **21/07/2023**	Executive Engineer, Public Work (South) Division Kolhapur. at 10.05 Hrs (Online) if possible.

All information relating to above tender is available on following websites.

1. **http://mahapwd.gov.in 2. http://mahatenders.gov.in**
   (If there is any change in above notice, same will informed on above website)
2. On the notice board of Executive Engineer, P.W. (South) Division, Kolhapur.
3. **No Bidder shall be awarded more than 2 AMC works in the Public Works Division in One financial year.**
4. **The machineries required for the work should be either owned or hired by the bidder for works costing less than Rs.10.00 lakhs and is required to be owned for all the works costing more than Rs.10.00 lakhs.**

-Sd/-
(P.R. JADHAV)
Executive Engineer,
DGIPR/2023-2024/1868 Public Works (South) Division, Kolhapur

EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION

Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. Of India
Reginonal Office, KHB 5th Phase, Chikmagalur - 577 102
Ph. : 08262-200755 e-mail : ro.chikmagalur@epfindia.gov.in

ATTENTION
EPF MEMBERS & PENSIONERS

EPFO has extended the deadline for eligible employees to submit applications for pension on higher wages till 11.07.2023. Employers have time till 30.09.2023 to upload wage details of pensioners/members.

Any eligible pensioner/member facing any problem while appling can file a grievance through "Higher Pensionery Benefits on Higher Wages" option in EPFIGMS PORTAL for redressal. They may also visit this office to resolve any issues in this regard.

For any help, please contact Sri K. Balachandar, DPA or Sri Rajeev Kumar Jha, Accounts Officer at RO Chikkamagaluru.

Pensioners, members and employers are requested to take advantage of the extension and submit applications before the deadline.

RPFC-II, EPFO
RO, CHIKMAGALUR

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal only)
No.: KPCL/2023-24/PS/WORK_INDENT23/CALL-2 Date:30.06.2023

Bids are invited in two cover system through GoK e-procurement Portal: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the work of **Clearing of wet coal from the loaded wagons and transportation of the same to the stack yard at coal handling plant BTPS.** Total Tender Amount: **Rs. 94,92,600/-.** EMD: **Rs.1,90,000/-.** Last date for submission of Bids: **07:07:2023 upto 17:00Hrs.** and Opening of Technical Bid: **08.07.2023 @17:05 Hrs**. Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer(CHP)Mechanical-1, BTPS, KPCL, Kudathini - 583 152, Bellary District, Karnataka.** Mobile No.: **094482 90756.** Website: **www.kpcl.karnataka.gov.in.**

Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation

Kempegowda Bus Station Division, Bengaluru

NO: KST/KBS/COM/330/2023-24 DATE: 01/07/2023

E- TENDER/NEGOTIATION NOTIFICATION NO: 01 /2023-24

Applications are invited from interested parties through E-procurement Portal for selecting licensees for vacant/to be vacant general stalls no 27, 120, 126, 7, 112, 03, Telephone Booth (Terminal-3) at Kempegowda Bus Station. and Stall no. 3, 4, 20, 01 at Mysuru Road Bus Station) and Peenya Basaweshawara Bus Station 2nd Floor and Overal total bus station as Single Developer, Bengaluru And also application are invited through negotiation for Stall no 58, 78, 09 Old CC Cell Place (Terminal-02), 44, 46, 48, 59, 113, 115, Two wheeler parking, (Terminal-02), Stall no.02 (Terminal-3) at Kempegowda Bus station and Stall no 17(Luggage Room), 06, 15, 30, 31, Office space at Mysuru Road Bus Station and Peenya Basaweshawara Bus Station Lower ground floor, Upper ground floor and First floor. For more information please visit https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and www.ksrtc.in Contact: KSRTC:7760990557/7760990554/ HP help desk: +91-0846010000/+91-8068948777.

DIPR/CP/439/AKAR/2023-24
Sd/- Divisional Controller
K B S Division, Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our Client intends to purchase the immovable property being a vacant residential **Plot bearing No.13, BBMP Serial No 4909**, comprised of property bearing **Survey No.72/2** bearing **BBMP Khatha serial No.8133**, measuring **1,530 square feet** situated **at Horamavu Agara Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru,** presently within the jurisdiction of **BBMP Ward No.25 of Horamavu, Bangalore – 560 043,** more fully described in the schedule written hereunder **(Schedule Property)** from its owner **Mrs.Ummae Athia Obaidullah Khan, wife of Mr.D.Vazir Khan** residing at **No.224, Skylite Vesta Villas, Bagalur Road, Thindlu, Bangalore-562125.** If there are any claims or interests over the Property of whatsoever nature, the interested person/s, bank/s, creditor/s, financial institution/s, firm/s, statutory authorities or any others must present his / their / its claims /objections with the undersigned, in writing along with documentary proof, **within ten (10) days** from the date of this publication, failing which our Client will proceed with the sale transaction with the owner named above, without any reference to such claim and claims, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being a vacant residential Plot bearing No.13, BBMP Serial No 4909, measuring East to West: 51 feet and North to South: 30 feet, totally measuring 1,530 square feet comprised in property bearing Survey No.72/2 bearing BBMP khatha serial No.8133, situated at Horamavu Agara Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru, presently within the jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.25 of Horamavu, Bangalore – 560 043 comprised in Survey No.72/2 of Horamavu Agara Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru, presently within the jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.25 of Horamavu, and bounded on the:

East by : Private Property; **West by :** 40 feet Wide Road; **North by :** Plot No : 12; **South by :** Plot No : 14.

E.Suhail Ahmed,
TRIALBASE®
ADVOCATES
No.1/1, Ground Floor, West Wing,
Unity Building Annexe, P. Kalinga Rao Road, (Mission Road), Bengaluru – 560027.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited, No.4 BRLBC Division, Bhadravathi
Ph : 08282-271063 Fax : 08282-271063
E-mail : eeknnlbdvt@yahoo.co.in

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Portal only)

No:EE:KNNL/No.4/BDVT/PB-1/Man power supply/Tender Notification No.01/2023-24 Dated : 03.07.2023

Percentage Tenders by e-procurement portal in the prescribed form is invited by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore from the eligible Contractors. Tender for the works of Head of Account 2701 Bhadra works. The No. of work is 04. The approximate cost of amount put to tender is **Rs. 51.65 lakhs to 117.72 Lakhs. The amount of EMD is Rs. 1,03,500/- to Rs. 2,00,000/- (by e-portal).** Contractors can access and submission of completed e-tendering documents **from 03.07.2023 to 12.07.2023 upto 17.30 hours** in the website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Pre Bid meeting will be held **on 10.07.2023 @ 11.00 Hrs at O/o Executive Engineer, No.4 BRLBC Division, Bhadravathi (For Sl No.4).** Technical Bid will be opened on **13.07.2023 at 17.31 hours** After obtaining approval of technical bid from competent authority, the financial bid will be opened. For more conditions and details visit website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. OR at undersigned in all working days during office hours on telephone No. 08282-271063

DIPR/SMG/No.01-07 zenkar/2023-24 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, KNNL,No.4 BRLBC Division, Bhadravathi.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that our client proposes to purchase the Office Space bearing Unit No.101, Khata No.104P(1)-101 (6692 square feet), Unit No.102, BBMP Khata No.104P(1)-102 (8000 square feet), Unit No.103, BBMP Khata No.104P(1)-103 (5353 square feet), Unit No.104, BBMP Khata No.104P(1)-104 (2000 square feet) and Unit No.105, Khata No.104P(1)-105 (2000 square feet), totally measuring 24045 Square Feet being the entire first floor of the building known as **'Prestige Omega'**, constructed on the Schedule A Property which is totally admeasuring 1 acre (4047 square meters) comprised in Plot No.104-P(1) of EPIP Industrial Area situated in Sy No. parts of 80 and 81 of Nallurahalli Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District and now falling within the Jurisdictional Limits of the BBMP, morefully described in the Schedule herein below and hereinafter referred to as the "**Schedule Property**" alongwith the proportionate undivided share of land in the Schedule A Property, from its owners 1)222 Ventures, 2)Mrs. Manju Modi 3)Mrs. Amita Saxena, Mr. Ayush Saxena and Mr.Akshat Saxena and 4)Mrs. Fouzia Ahmed and Mrs. Shafia Taj Naveed (the "**Owners**").

If any person/s, entity firm, institution (corporate or otherwise) has or claims any right, title, interest, pending litigation or demand of any nature in or upon the Schedule Property or any part thereof, the same may be brought to the notice of the undersigned in writing together with all details of the right, title, interest, claim, pending litigation or demand made together with supporting documents within nine (9) days from the date of this notice, failing which such claim shall be considered to have been waived and /or given up and our client shall be entitled to complete the transaction in respect of the Schedule Property. Objection and/or claims received after the expiry of the period stipulated above shall neither be entertained nor be binding on our client.

SCHEDULE
SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property known as Plot No.104-P(1) of EPIP Industrial Area situated in Sy No. parts of 80 and 81 of Nallurhalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk), Bangalore District measuring 1 acre or (4047 square meters) and bounded as follows;

East by : Road No.8-A;
West by : Plot No.96 & 104-P(2);
North by : Plot Nos.95, 96 & 104-P(2); and
South by : Road No.2A.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the office space bearing Unit No.101, Khata No.104P(1)-101 measuring 6692 square feet, Unit No.102, BBMP Khata No.104P(1)-102 measuring 8000 square feet, Unit No.103, BBMP Khata No.104P(1)-103 measuring 5353 square feet, Unit No.104, BBMP Khata No.104P(1)-104 measuring 2000 square feet, Unit No.105, Khata No.104P(1)-105 measuring 2000 square feet, totally measuring 24045 Square Feet being the entire first floor of the building known as **'Prestige Omega'**, constructed on the Schedule A Property alongwith the proportionate undivided share of land in the Schedule A Property together with 23 covered car parking spaces, and bounded as follows:

East by : Open towards Open space in "Prestige Omega" and thereafter Road No.8-A;
West by : Open towards Open space in "Prestige Omega" and thereafter Plot No.96 & 104-P(2);
North by : Open towards Open space in "Prestige Omega" and thereafter Plot Nos.95, 96 & 104-P(2) and
South by : Open towards Open space in "Prestige Omega" and thereafter Road No. 2A

Date: 05/07/2023
Place: Bengaluru

Mrs.Ashika U.
Advocate
Apt Law
No.1263 & 1264, 14th Floor
Mittal Towers, M.G.Road
Bengaluru - 560 001

INBRIEF

C-CAMP partners with Capital 2B to fund science innovations

C-CAMP has partnered with venture capital firm, Capital 2B to foster early-stage deep-science innovations from India. This partnership will facilitate seed-stage investment funding of 200-600K USD and capacity building for start-ups having innovative solutions across biotechnology, more secifically food tech, agriculture and sustainability. Through this partnership, start-ups selected by C-CAMP and Capital 2B will receive investment opportunities along with mentorship, networking opportunities, capacity building for enablement of acceleration towards market deployment.

Archana Joshi takes over as GM of Rail Wheel Factory

Archana Joshi, an officer of Indian Railway Traffic Service of 1985 batch, on Tuesday, assumed charge as General Manager of Rail Wheel Factory (RWF). According to a release from RWF, prior to this new assignment, she was general manager of South Eastern Railway. Ms. Joshi has worked in different Zonal Railways – Northern Railway and North Western Railway, in various capacities such as Additional General Manager, Chief Commercial Manager and Chief Operations Manager. She also worked as Divisional Railway Manager in Kota for West Central Railway, the release stated.

Huge rush as Purple Line metro service is disrupted

According to BMRCL officials, the main reason for the disruption was changing of power supply systems, including uninterruptible power supply at Baiyappanahalli station on Monday night

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Office-goers, students and other commuters had to face chaos on Tuesday morning as services on the Purple Line of Namma Metro were disrupted due to a glitch during work related to power supply. While the disruptions began around 7.30 a.m., services were restored only by 12.08 p.m., leading to heavy crowds in all the stations on the stretch.

Commuters waiting for metro at Vijayanagar station in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

Trains from Kengeri were terminated at Indiranagar metro station and commuters had to take buses and autos to reach their destinations. Meanwhile, the Majestic station, where both purple and green line commuters interchange, saw huge crowd. The queues at the metro stations were very long and many commuters had to miss several trains, making them reach office late. "I regularly take the metro from National College station to Trinity for work. I got into the green line train and got off at Majestic to switch to the purple line. But I was shocked to see so many people on the platform. Three trains passed and I still could not get in as there were so many people. As it was already late for my office, I went out to hail an autorickshaw. But as many people had come out from Majestic station like me, I could not get an auto too. I took the bus to my office and reached 1.5 hours later than usual," said Nisarga Shivakumar, a content writer. Anusha Bhaskar, another passenger said, "When I boarded the train from Indiranagar, the train took half an hour to reach Cubbon Park. I was getting very late and even when we got there, the doors wouldn't open for a long time." Nukso C., a passenger, said, "I was going to Cubbon Park metro station from Baiyappanahalli when the train suddenly stopped for around 20 minutes. We couldn't understand what was happening."

Meanwhile, many irked passengers took to social media posting pictures of crowded stations and complaining about the rush on the metro.

According to BMRCL officials, the main reason for the disruption was the changing of power supply systems, including the uninterruptible power supply (UPS) at the Baiyappanahalli metro station on Monday night. The change of power system was going on as part of the yet-to-open 2.1-km Baiyappanahalli-K.R. Pura section's pending works.

"The changing of the power system was not completed on time; this led to the disruption of the train service on Tuesday morning. However, we had rectified the issue and sorted it out by afternoon," a senior official from the operations department of BMRCL told *The Hindu*.

Two arrested for cooking up story to pocket cash

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Byatarayanapura police on Monday, arrested a 23-year-old salesman of a mobile shop and his elder brother for cooking up a robbery story to pocket the cash which he was carrying to the shop on a scooter.

The accused Shabaaz, 23, was working as a salesman at a wholesale mobile shop owned by Abubakar in Kasturbanagar. On June 28, Abubakar, based on an order, asked Shabaaz to deliver a few sets of mobile phones to different shops in KR Puram and get the money. He also asked Mohammed, another new salesman, to accompany Shabaaz. The accused hatched a plan to pocket the money and roped in his elder brother Azeez. As per the plan, while Shabaaz and Mohammed were returning with the cash on a scooter, he came down on Mysuru road flyover and took a deviation instead of taking the straight road to the shop.

While moving on the cross road, the accused as per the plan, stopped the scooter and posing as a policeman asked them to open the boot space to check on drugs. Shabaaz pretended to be scared and followed his instruction and the accused picked up the bag of cash, threatened the duo with dire consequences not to follow and sped away.

Pretending to be in shock, Shabaaz called Abubakar and narrated the story, following which, a complaint was filed.

The police took up the probe and upon questioning Shabaaz, found many loose ends and variations in the narration. Out of suspicion as to why Shabaaz took a deviation against the usual straight road, the police checked his call record details. The CDR details found he had called Azeez many times before and after the incident and Azeez's tower location was also found in the scene of crime around the same time. Getting some leads, the police took Shabaaz into custody and detailed questioning led him to confess to the crime. The police recovered the cash.

Girinagar police unearth inter-State drug racket amid drama

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following a lead from a drug addict, the Girinagar police on Monday unearthed an inter-State drug racket and arrested a gang of four peddlers from Jalna town in Maharashtra amid high drama.

When the police went to secure their arrest, the family of the accused put up strong resistance, but the city police team managed to whisk them away. The family later filed a kidnap complaint with the jurisdictional police. The Maharashtra police chased the police vehicle for several hours and detained the police team at the border.

However, after getting confirmation about their identity and the case, the Maharashtra police cooperated and escorted the city police till the border, a senior police officer who was part of the operation said. Deputy Commissioner of Police (south division) P. Krishnakant, supervising the case, appreciated the Girinagar police team.

It all started when Girinagar police, based on credible information, caught a drug addict redhanded consuming marijuana. Based on his information, the police zeroed in on Syed Sadiq, a local peddler. Sadiq told the police that he was sourcing the drugs from his contacts from Jalna.

Based on the information, the police went to Jalna and kept a tab for a few days before arresting Amol, Akash, and Rahul, all brothers.

From the accused, the police have seized 96 kg of marijuana worth ₹50 lakh. The accused were running the racket for quite some time having a network of local peddlers in neighbouring States, including Karnataka, the police said.

Nigerian nationals arrested

In another case, the K.G. Nagar police arrested two Nigerian nationals and recovered 260 grams of cocaine and 30.3 grams of ecstasy pills worth ₹30 lakh from them.

The accused were selling the drugs to college students near the back gate of a college in Chamarajapet. Based on a tip-off, a team of police rushed to the spot and arrested the duo redhanded. The police have booked the duo under the NDPS Act and are investigating further to ascertain the source of drugs.

Complaint about network problem ends with homemaker losing ₹3 lakh to man posing as customer care executive

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

A 50-year-old homemaker in Bengaluru lost over ₹3 lakh to a cyber criminal who she came in contact with following an online search to fix a network problem in her mobile phone.

On June 22, the woman, a resident of Babusapalya, was facing mobile phone network issues. Fed up with the network problem, she did a quick online search to find the customer care number of the service provider. The search result threw up a number. On calling the number, she came in contact with a man who claimed to be a customer care executive of a network provider.

On informing him about the problem, he instructed the woman to download a remote access and remote control software, mainly used for maintenance of computers and other electronic devices. After the woman downloaded the software, she shared her screen with the 'customer care executive', giving him access to her phone. The 'executive' instructed the woman to pay ₹2 via Google Pay to 9583929517. The woman did as instructed.

The conman instructed the woman to download a remote access and remote control software through which he got access to a payment app on her phone

The police suspect that the the 'executive' was closely monitoring the application when the woman was carrying out the transaction. Later, he took control of the app and began to transfer money out of her accounts. He transferred ₹2.52 lakh in three different transactions through the payment app while the woman was unaware of what was happening on her mobile phone.

After emptying money from two bank accounts – one operated by the woman and another by her daughter, he moved swiftly to another account in a small finance bank, from which he removed ₹57,000. Alarmed by multiple messages coming from banks about money being removed, she enquired with the 'executive'. He replied that the money will be returned in 24 hours, and she need not have to worry. When the woman insisted that he return the money immediately, he disconnected the call, and went incommunicado.

An FIR has been registered at East Cyber Crime, Economic Offences and Narcotics (CEN) police station.

Rohini Nilekani Centre for Brain and Mind launched

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Rohini Nilekani Centre for Brain and Mind was launched at the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) in Bengaluru on Tuesday. The centre will focus on the long-term examination of environmental and genetic factors involved in brain development, which underline severe mental illness.

Rohini Nilekani Centre for Brain and Mind was inaugurated by Rohini Nilekani at the National Centre for Biological Sciences in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

The centre will support research through its partnership with the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), and NCBS's therapeutic practices pertaining to five mental disorders – schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, addiction, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and dementia.

The centre is an outcome of a ₹100 crore grant to NCBS and NIMHANS for long-term research, and to build capacity for both research and practice in the mental health field. The money will be released over a period of time.

Ms. Nilekani, chairperson of Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies, said, "India has a significant number of people, around 193 million, dealing with mental illness. The proportional contribution of mental disorders to the total disease burden in India has almost doubled since 1990."

"This centre will attempt to address this challenge by driving interdisciplinary research to understand the complexities of brain and mind conditions. More research originating from India is critical at this juncture," she added.

Partima Murthy said, "It is a greater challenge to get research support for mental health as compared to physical disorders like cancer.

"This will enable us to look further into the common as well as distinctive biological (including genetic) and psychosocial underpinning of disorders, such as schizophrenia, bipolar mood disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, addictive disorders, and dementia. We hope that with the help of the Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies, we will be able to help lakhs of people with severe mental diseases to eventually receive more effective interventions."

Four firms in race for suburban rail corridor-4 civil work

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Four firms have participated in the tender of civil work for the Bengaluru suburban rail project's corridor-4 (Kanaka line) that is from Heelalige to Rajanakunte.

In a release on Tuesday, the Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited - KRIDE, the agency implementing the project, said that four firms participated in the bid which was opened on Friday.

"Technical evaluation of the offers will start soon by the tender committee after acceptance of which price bids will be opened," the release stated.

K-RIDE had invited bids for the civil engineering works of alignment of Kanaka line which consists of 8.9 km elevated section and 37.9 km at-grade section.

The tender has been invited on EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) model, where the agencies have to quote lumpsum prices for the elevated section and at-grade section separately.

Last year in June, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation for the suburban rail project in the city.

The PM had promised that the project will be reality in 40 months. Rail activists have been demanding that K-RIDE expedite the project which was envisaged decades ago.

Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (July 05, Wednesday), the following explainer is available:

- The U.S. student loan crisis and Joe Biden's new cancellation plan **bit.ly/studentloansusa**

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I Mohammed Abid Khan S/o Abdul Azeez Khan , residing at No 29/1 Ground Floor,1st Cross Siddaramappa Garden Lingarajapuram, Opposite Space Habitat Apartments, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560084, have changed the name of minor Daughter Amira Zohara aged 12 years and she shall hereafter be known as Amira Khan for all purposes in future

I Nipimol C C/o Cibin C M R/o 14/148, Vazhayil Champad, Mokeri, Kannur, Kerala - 670694 have changed my minor son's name from Mitansh Cibin to Mitansh Cheruvary for all purpose.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, Vandana Gaikwad D/o Vijay Rao, Ex Wife of Yeshwanth residing at No. 67, Nrupathunaga Extension, 3rd Cross , Opp H.D.F.C.Bank R.T Nagar , Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560032, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that I got a divorce from my husband vide court decree No.M.C/596/2014 dated 01/04/2016. Further I have changed my minor Daughter name from Aastha aged 11 years to Aastha Gaikwad for all purposes in future, which may be amended accordingly.

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Name of Holders & Jt. Holders : Sikha Singhal
Kind of Securities & face value : Equity Share Certificate Rs. 10/- Each
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Distinctive numbers : 10349411 to 10349510 (100 share) & 23155921 to 23156020 (100 shares)

Place: Agra
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School of Biosciences:
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School of Arts and Social Sciences:
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School of Commerce and Management:
Commerce, Business Administration, Tourism Management

School of Education :
Education, Special Education, Physical Education

School of Allied and Healthcare Sciences:
Clinical Embryology, Audiology & Speech Language Pathology, Linguistics for BASLP, Physiotherapy

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Place: Coimbatore
Date : 5.07.2023 **REGISTRAR**

Understanding leptospirosis, a disease that surges during the monsoon

The disease has been called "*ili jwara*" in Kannada and "*eli pani*" in Malayalam, both meaning "rat fever". This usage has fed a common belief that rats are the sole cause of the disease, which is not true. Leptospirosis has a spectrum of reservoir hosts, including pigs, cattle, water buffaloes, goats, dogs, horses and sheep

Irfan Shakeer and Iswarya Lakshmi

Working barefoot in a flooded paddy field increases the risk of contracting leptospirosis. FOTO MURTHY/UNSPLASH

Leptospirosis has emerged as an important infectious disease in the world today. It is a potentially fatal zoonotic bacterial disease that tends to have large outbreaks after heavy rain or flooding.

The disease is more prevalent in warm, humid countries and in both urban and rural areas.

It affects an estimated 1.03 million people every year, killing around 60,000. The burden of leptospirosis is expected to increase in the future as the urban poor population in many tropical countries increases even as sanitary infrastructure falls short.

In India, thousands of people are affected by leptospirosis every year.

However, the numbers at the global and regional levels are not exact because of misdiagnosis (its symptoms mimic those of dengue, malaria, and hepatitis), limited access to reliable diagnostics, lack of awareness among treating physicians, and lack of environmental surveillance.

Within India, studies have found that leptospirosis is more common in the south, although this could be due to the region's better healthcare and thus better disease detection.

What causes the disease?

The disease is caused by a bacterium called *Leptospira interrogans*, or leptospira. It is a contagious disease in animals but is occasionally transmitted to humans in certain environmental conditions.

The carriers of the disease can be either wild or domestic animals, including rodents, cattle, pigs, and dogs.

The cycle of disease transmission begins with the shedding of leptospira, usually in the urine of infected animals.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, infected animals can continue to excrete the bacteria into their surroundings for a few months, but sometimes up to several years.

Which people are at risk?

Humans become part of the cycle when they come in direct contact with this urine or indirectly, through soil and water that contain leptospira bacteria. A person is more likely to contract leptospirosis if they have cuts or abrasions on their skin.

The disease is also considered an occupational hazard for people working in agricultural settings, with animals, or in sanitary services that bring them into contact with contaminated water.

Recreational activities in contaminated lakes and rivers are also reported to increase the risk of leptospirosis.

What are the symptoms?

The severity of a leptospirosis infection ranges from a mild flu-like illness to being life-threatening.

The infection can affect many organs, reflecting the systemic nature of the disease. This is also why the signs and symptoms of leptospirosis are often mistaken for other diseases.

In milder cases, patients could experience a sudden onset of fever, chills, and headache - or no symptoms at all. But in severe cases, the disease can be characterised by the dysfunction of multiple organs, including the liver, kidneys, lungs, and the brain.

Animals exhibit a variety of clinical symptoms and indications. In cattle and pigs, the disease can potentially cause reproductive failure, stillbirths, and weak calves or piglets. Dogs experience a range of symptoms, including fever, jaundice, vomiting, diarrhoea, renal failure, and even death.

What are the misconceptions?

Preventing leptospirosis requires appropriate and adequate health education, community health empowerment, and preventive habits.

The disease has been called "*ili jwara*" in Kannada and "*eli pani*" in Malayalam, both meaning "rat fever". This usage has fed the common belief that rats are the sole cause of the disease, which is not true.

Leptospirosis has a spectrum of reservoir hosts, including pigs, cattle, water buffaloes, goats, dogs, horses, and sheep. Further, seasonal patterns such as the onset of the monsoon can also potentially facilitate the disease's incidence and transmission.

The disease is caused by a bacterium called *Leptospira interrogans*, or leptospira. It is a contagious disease in animals but is occasionally transmitted to humans in certain environmental conditions

Ambient air that is more humid can help the pathogenic leptospira survive longer in the environment, thus increasing the risk of disease exposure in the community.

The incidence of the disease is also linked to extreme weather events like floods and hurricanes, when people are exposed to contaminated water.

Similarly, poor waste management, a high density of stray animals, faulty drainage systems, and unhygienic sanitation facilities are major drivers of the disease in urban areas. In rural parts, these are contaminated paddy fields, dirty livestock shelters, and poor water-quality and sanitation.

Despite this complexity, the use of "rat fever" as a colloquial term for leptospirosis undermines a more holistic understanding of the disease's causes.

If we are to protect people, we must use the correct terms, study the ecology of the disease and use the findings to inform healthcare policy, improve health literacy, and engage with people's concerns.

Preventing leptospirosis?

Leptospirosis control can benefit from a 'One Health' approach. 'One Health' is an interdisciplinary approach that recognises the interconnections between the health of humans, animals, plants, and their shared environment.

People who frequently interact with animals or their urine should exercise particular caution, such as by wearing personal protective equipment like gloves and boots. The same goes for workers in flooded fields where there's a chance of being exposed to contaminated water. They should take extra care if they have cuts or abrasions on their lower extremities.

Preventing animals from getting infected is also important to reduce the risk of leptospirosis spreading and to limit farmers' economic losses (when the disease causes reproductive failures in pigs and cattle). This in turn requires sanitary animal-keeping conditions, which is also desirable to improve the animals' health and to prevent the spread of many diseases. Given the spike in leptospirosis during the monsoons, it is best to take precautions, including washing one's arms and legs with an antiseptic liquid after handling animal waste and after working in water.

In sum, with 'One Health' in mind, public health professionals must work closely with the animal husbandry department to familiarise people about the dangers of leptospirosis, and create countermeasures that work for the health of both people and animals.

Irfan shakeer is a Senior Research Associate and Iswarya Lakshmi is a Research Associate at Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Bengaluru where they are associated with the IndiaZooRisk+ project (India-U.K. joint initiative).

THE GIST

Humans become part of the cycle when they come in direct contact with urine or indirectly, through soil and water that contain leptospira bacteria. A person is more likely to contract leptospirosis if they have cuts or abrasions on their skin

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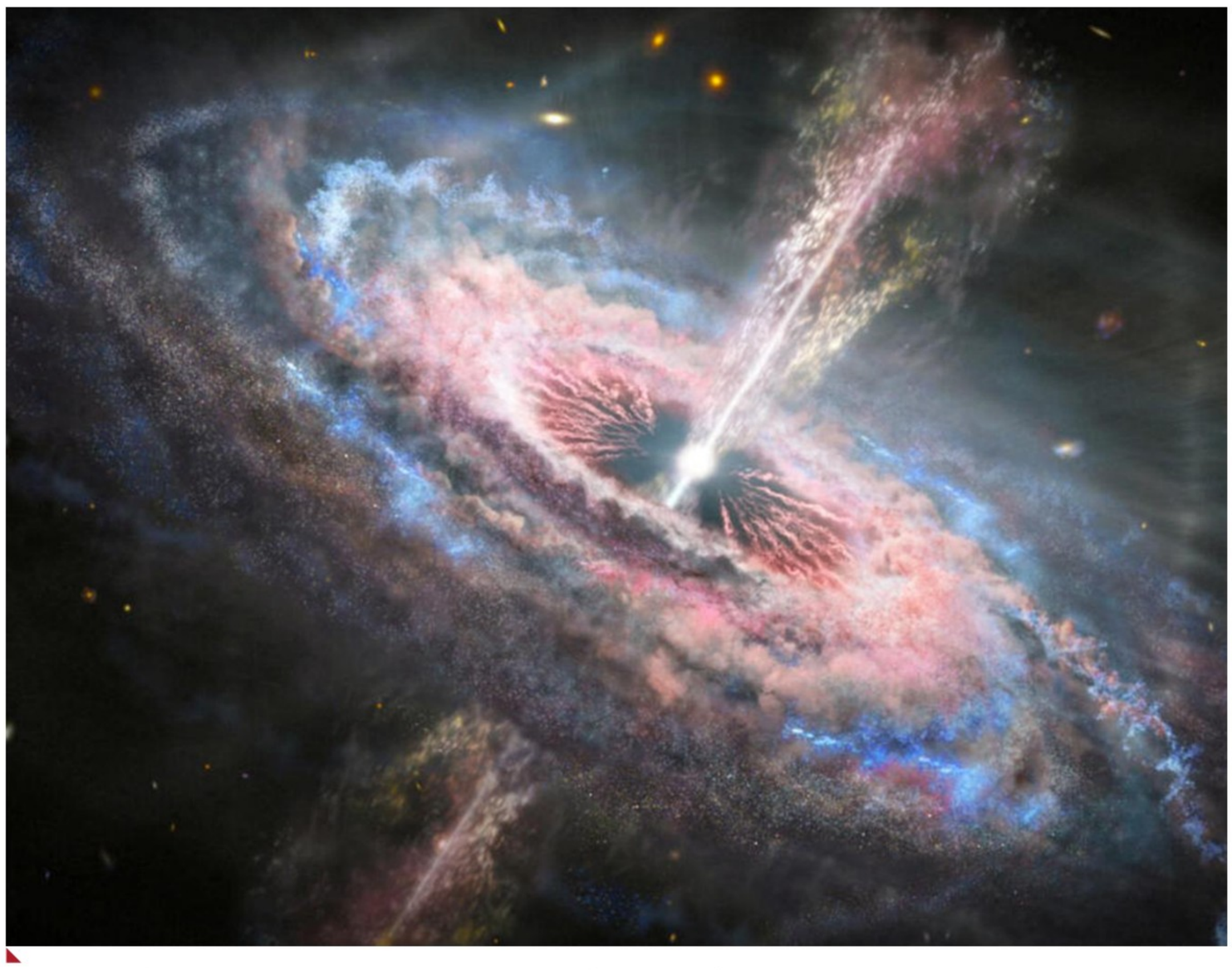
BIG SHOT



An artist's concept of a galaxy with a supermassive black hole millions to billions of times the mass of the Sun at its centre. In a new study, scientists analysed the ancient light from these entities to report that time passed more slowly in the early universe than it does today. NASA, ESA AND J. OLMSTED (STSCI)/REUTERS

QUESTION CORNER

The shape of flames

Lakshmi Narayanan S

Why do flames go upwards?

Flames heat a few layers of air nearby and make them less dense. Due to buoyancy, this hot air moves vertically upwards, creating a sort of low pressure near the flame. This causes the cool air from faraway layers to flow towards the flame from the sides and below. Oxygen present in the air keeps the fuel burning. The air near the flame gets heated and moves up faster.

The dynamics of air flow near the flame is a complex process. However, mathematicians have modelled it and found that there is a greater (faster) outflow of hot air right above the flame with a smaller (slower) inflow from the sides and below.

The hot air goes up and then mixes with the environment and cools down. This theory holds good only for candles or wickstoves and not for a welder's torch or the like, where the fuel is forced in a particular direction.

Candle burning out. GETTY IMAGES

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to
science@thehindu.co.in
with the subject 'Daily page'

Water adalat

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) will hold water adalat on Thursday from 9.30 a.m to 11 a.m in various parts of the city to settle water-related issues.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated July 5, we have a story on Christ University Kannada Sangha, a 50-year-old institution trying to create progressive Kannada consciousness through its literary works.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, JUL. 05	
RISE 05:58	SET 18:50
RISE 20:58	SET 07:41
THURSDAY, JUL. 06	
RISE 05:59	SET 18:50
RISE 21:50	SET 08:46
FRIDAY, JUL. 07	
RISE 05:59	SET 18:50
RISE 22:35	SET 09:47

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	30	21
Bengaluru	27	20

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be slight warm but humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain or thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
31°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light rain or thundershower at few places.

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44 overspeeding vehicles booked on Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway

The move by the police comes amid concerns over alarming number of accidents on the highway

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Cracking down on overspeeding motorists to stem the alarming number of accidents on Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway, the Ramanagara police on Tuesday deployed three mobile speed radar guns and booked 44 vehicles (as of 10.30 p.m.) crossing the permissible limits of 100 kmph.

"The violators have been booked and their licences will be impounded. We have recommended to the RTO concerned to suspend their licence too," Alok Kumar, Additional Director-General of Police, Traffic and Road Safety, told *The Hindu*.

As per the rules, light motor vehicles have a maximum speed limit of 100 kmph while for heavy vehicles, including trucks and buses, it is 60 kmph. In addition, the police have proposed to the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials to ban movement of slow moving vehicles, including two and three-wheelers and tractors. These vehicles can use service road, he said. However, people on social media criticised the move stating that there was no point of calling it an expressway as the speed limit is contained and the police have barricaded many places. "This is also another way of fleecing money from the public," a Twitter user alleged.

As per rules, light motor vehicles have a maximum speed limit of 100 kmph while for heavy vehicles, it is 60 kmph. FILE PHOTO

Lane discipline

Clarifying the police stand, Mr. Alok Kumar said that the move is to contain overspeeding of vehicles and enforce lane discipline. "People who travel in the newly assigned speed limit on the 118-km stretch of the expressway can easily reach in one hour. If the motorists accelerate to 120 speed, there is a danger of accident and losing control," he said.

Due to this, since the inception of the expressway, 100 deaths have been reported and over 150 people severely injured out of total number of 308 accidents reported since March 12 this year. This is alarming and a study by a team of police revealed that overspeeding and lack of lane discipline are two major factors causing accidents, another senior official said.

Temporary solution

Deploying mobile speed radar guns at strategic locations is only a temporary solution while the permanent solutions, including installation of contactless AI-based cameras, are on the cards. This needs some time for the approval of procurement and installation process, he added.

The mobile radar speed guns will soon be deployed on other stretches of the expressway, including in Mandya and others parts, based on the requirement until permanent solutions are in place. Until then, radar guns will guard the speed, a senior police officer said.

Red alert for coastal districts today

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

With the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issuing red alert for the coastal districts on Wednesday, the Dakshina Kannada and Udupi district administrations have declared holiday for anganwadis, primary and high schools, and pre-university colleges for the day.

According to the IMD, Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, and Uttara Kannada districts are likely to receive extremely heavy rainfall (above 204.5 mm) on Wednesday.

With the rains continuing, a tree fell on an electricity supply line near Bajal church in the city late on Tuesday, cutting power supply. An autorickshaw and a two-wheeler were damaged when another tree fell near Shanthinagar in Bajal on the day.

The Dakshina Kannada District Disaster Management Authority said that two houses in Ullal were partially damaged and a house in Mulki was severely damaged in rains on Tuesday. According to the Dakshina Kannada District Disaster Management Authority, the district recorded 45 mm rainfall in 24 hours ending at 8.30 a.m. on Tuesday. Mangaluru taluk recorded 74.9 mm rainfall, Moodbidri 62 mm, Bantwal 57.4 mm, Sullia 52.6 mm, Puttur 48.6 mm, Belthangady 25.8 mm and Kadaba taluk 29.8 mm rainfall during the period.

The Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC) said Pajiru in Bantwal taluk of Dakshina Kannada recorded the highest rainfall of 172.5 mm in 24 hours ending at 8.30 a.m. on Tuesday. Munnur in Mangaluru taluk recorded 155 mm rainfall during the period. The rainfall recorded at Kotekar in Mangaluru taluk during the period stood at 154 mm.

It said that Yadthare, Kundapur taluk, in Udupi district recorded 139.5 mm rainfall during the same period. Shiruru in Kundapur taluk reported 136.5 mm rainfall.

Seven minors held for murder of college mate

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Seven minor boys were held and a youth arrested for allegedly killing their 17-year-old college mate on Monday.

Basaveshwaranagar police said on July 1, the victim, identified as Suhail E.K., and the accused had a fight during the freshers' party at a private college where they were pursuing PUC. After the incident, the accused hatched a plan to attack Suhail. On Monday, the accused attacked him near the college and stabbed him. He was rushed to the hospital. The police said he died at the hospital due to massive bleeding and failing to respond to the treatment.

Bus services between Shivajinagar and Hebbal extended till Kodigehalli Gate

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The services of Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) buses plying between Hebbal and Shivajinagar (as starting and ending points) have been extended till Kodigehalli Gate due to ongoing construction works in Hebbal. The move came after many passengers faced troubles trying to catch buses from the bus stop near Hebbal police station. As the work to add a ramp to Hebbal flyover began, traffic police imposed restrictions on the service road from Monday. As a result, the buses were starting and stopping at the CBI stop on Monday and the first half of Tuesday.

"There was no intimation of any kind from BMTC. I waited near the usual stop in Hebbal for half an hour. Later, I took an auto and then I noticed that bus was plying from CBI stop," said Vimala Kumari, a senior citizen. "We have decided to extend the services up until Kodigehalli Gate so that there is no inconvenience caused. This will continue until the work gets completed," said a BMTC official.

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GUVNL invites tenders for procurement of power from 600 MW solar PV projects to be set up in Solar Park of GIPCL at Khavda (GIPCL Stage 1) along with additional capacity of 600 MW under Greenshoe option (GUVNL Phase-XXI) through RfS No.GUVNL/600 MW/Solar (Phase-XXI) dated 04.07.2023. For tender documents, please visit the websites **www.bharat-electronictender.com** and **www.guvnl.com**. The last date of bid submission is 01.08.2023.

Date: 05-07-2023 **General Manager (RE)**

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Christ University Kannada Sangha: carrying forward a literary legacy

The Kannada Sangha's primary focus, and the biggest achievement, has been recognising, platforming, and publishing student writers to create progressive Kannada consciousness

Nalme Nachiyar
BENGALURU

Kannada writersK. Marulasiddappa and Nataraj Huliyar at a function to release a book published by the Christ University Kannada Sangha.

Kuvempu and Chi. Srinivasaraju

Cultural institutions play a crucial role in fostering the language and literature of a land. They harness the aspirations of people and offer a platform to share ideas and art, especially among the young. One institution which has done this relentlessly for the past 50 years is the Christ University Kannada Sangha.

Following the uncertainties left behind by the Karnataka Unification Movement, there was a growing need to unite the State on the basis of its linguistic and cultural identities. Contemporary values and challenges had to find literary expression to create a modern, progressive Kannada consciousness. To achieve this, the voice of a new generation of Kannadigas had to be heard.

Thus, was born CUKS – the brainchild of noted Kannada litterateur and then head of the Department of Kannada in the college, the late professor Chi. Srinivasaraju.

A cultural movement

The Kannada Sangha was formed on December 21, 1972, with the aim of nurturing young writers. Its first initiative was an essay competition in the name of novelist A.N. Krishna Rao (popularly known as Anakru). Ten years later, in 1982, the Sangha began a poetry competition in the name of Dr. Da.Ra. Bendre, one of the greatest Kannada poets of the 20th century.

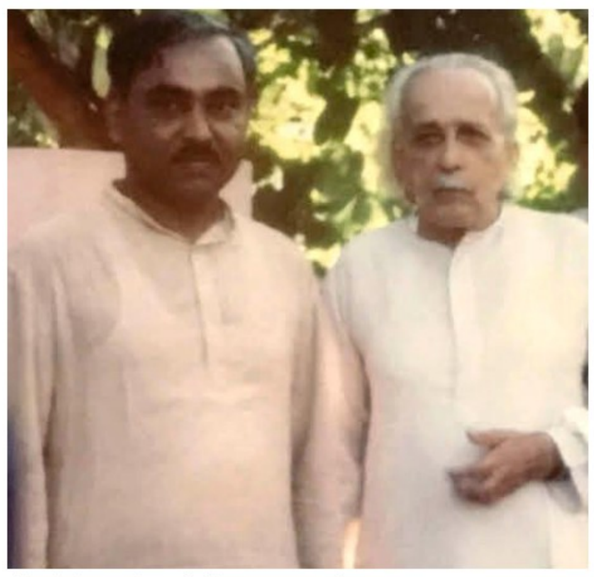
"The Kannada Sangha's primary focus, and biggest achievement, has been recognising, platforming and publishing student writers. Year after year, hundreds of students from across Karnataka have participated in the two competitions," says Dr. Rathi M.T., coordinator of the Sangha and Associate Professor of Kannada at Christ University in Bengaluru.

By the early 2000s, the quality of essays being submitted had dipped. In 2009, the essay competition was scrapped to make way for a short story competition, again in the name of Anakru.

The Sangha's competitions have since transformed the literary landscape, introducing to Kannada readers a whole new generation of accomplished writers, poets, critics, novelists, journalists and essayists.

"Many prominent names in the field of Kannada literature and journalism today, including Chintamani Kodlakere, H.S. Shivaprakash, Vikram Visaji, Kavita Rai, Muktayaka S.S., Cha Ha Raghunath, owe their first break to the essay and poetry competitions of the Kannada Sangha," Dr. Rathi adds.

US-based poet Kavya P. Kadame has published seven poetry collections in the last 10 years. One of her books, *Dhyanakke Thaarikina Hangilla*, was awarded the 2014 Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar. The foundation for all this, however, was laid at CUKS.



Chi. Srinivasaraju and Shivaram Karanth.

"When I was in college, CUKS was among the four competitions that prioritised student writers. It was our first introduction to the world of big Kannada writers. Hearing them speak at the annual event was very encouraging and opened the doors to a wealth of literary influences. So were the bagful of books we would take home as the prize," says Kavya, who won the Bendre poetry competition six years in a row (2006-11).

As a publisher

It's not just the competitions, but the Kannada Sangha's work as a publisher that distinguishes it from other college-level Kannada Sanghas. In the 50 years since its inception, the Sangha has published a total of 256 books across genres.

In the 50 years since its inception, the sangha has published 256 books across genres.

Over 85 of these titles are the annual collections of prize-winning entries by students.

"We believe that publishing these selected works makes aspiring writers more confident about pursuing writing as a career and also imparts legitimacy to their work," Dr. Rathi says.

A bulk of Sangha's publications comprise books authored by established authors, including literary giants like Gopalkrishna Adiga, Pu.Thi. Narasimhachar, G.S. Shivarudrappa etc. Translations into Kannada from Hindi, Oriya, Bengali, Gujarati, Marathi, Tamil, Malayalam and English . Its publications have won prestigious awards, including two Central Sahitya Academy Awards and 10 State Sahitya Academy Awards.

Publications by the Kannada Sangha come with a hallmark of quality, and for students, especially, this means a stamp of approval and a nod of appreciation from the best minds in Kannada literature.

Stamp of quality, credibility

"We would wait for the competition every year as it motivated us to write. Had it not been for the Sangha, I may not have delved deep into poetry and written as much as I did back then. Being published by the Kannada Sangha lent credibility to my words," says Kavya.

Publications by the Kannada Sangha come with a hallmark of quality, and for students, especially, this means a stamp of approval and a nod of appreciation.

Every year, 20 student submissions are shortlisted and compiled in the form of a book, released on January 31 in honour of Dr. Bendre's birth anniversary. Apart from being felicitated at the event, the winners also get to interact with the noted poets, critics and writers of Kannada as part of a day-long workshop.

"We sponsor their travel and accommodation to ensure no student is left out because of financial hardship. At the workshop, renowned writers and jury members engage with the youngsters, teaching them how to write a poem or short story, how to hone their craft, and critically analyse their own reading process," Dr. Rathi says.

"Meeting new people at the Sangha's event also helped widen my literary network and circle of friends, many of whom are today well-known poets and writers. It was a friendship forged out of our love for literature," Kavya adds.

Spreading its reach

Dr. Rathi acknowledges the contributions of the Christ University management, which has not only been encouraging of the Sangha's work but also funds it entirely. To expand its reach, the Sangha began a public lecture series this year.

"We invited experts from allied fields of literature, such as linguistics, criticism, translation, philosophy, among others. We hope to continue it."

Another initiative where the Sangha has tried to propagate Kannada is Wikipedia writing. Every semester, students from across Sciences, Humanities, Social Sciences, Commerce and Management departments, who are also fluent in writing in Kannada, choose topics from their respective streams that do not have a Wikipedia entry and create a page for it.

This voluntary activity has so far seen 2,000 Kannada articles being added to the online encyclopedia.

Bengaluru-based Credsquare to set up R&D hub in Goa

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Credsquare Technologies Private Limited, a Bengaluru-based artificial intelligence (AI) company, has announced plans to set up a Research and Development (R&D) hub in Goa. The facility will serve as a hub for AI research, development, and experimentation, focusing on creating solutions that cater to the unique needs of the region.

"We are excited to bring our R&D hub to Goa, a vibrant and progressive state. By setting up our facility here, we aim to tap into the local talent and contribute to the technological growth of the region. We are dedicated to pushing the boundaries of home-grown AI innovation and developing solutions that have a positive impact on industries and society, at large," said Gaurav Sharma, Founder and CEO of Credsquare Technologies.

The company claims that it aims to create opportunities for skill development and entrepreneurship in the coastal state.

Bengaluru leads in office space leasing with 7 mn sq.ft, says realty advisory firm Knight Frank

The demand for flex spaces is growing as companies are opting to operate from co-working and managed offices

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Corporates in Bengaluru seem to be scaling up office space in anticipation of letting more of their employees work from office.

Consequently, the city's office space leasing transactions in the first half of calendar 2023 was the highest across top eight cities in the country at 7 million sq.ft, against 6.4 million Sq.ft in the corresponding period a year ago, reported realty advisory firm Knight Frank India on Tuesday.

The city accounted for 27% of the total 26.1 mn sq.ft transacted across NCR, Chennai, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Pune, Kolkata and Ahmedabad.

Buoyant during H1 2023

Bengaluru's office sector remained buoyant during H1 2023, despite facing multiple headwinds such as volatility in the IT/ITeS sector, continuation in work-from-home policies and the funding crunch for startups, said Knight Frank the realty advisor.

To-let board displayed at commercial building at Banashankari in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

According to the realty advisory firm, GCCs (global capability centres) and co-working occupiers drove the demand for office space during H1 2023, thus, balancing the slowdown arising from the IT/ITeS sector.

The demand for flex spaces was growing as companies, especially in the volatile IT/ITeS and start-up ecosystem, were opting to operate from co-working and managed offices as a revenue saving mechanism.

In fact, sectoraly, the City's commercial market leasing volume was largely dominated by flex working spaces (41%), Global Capacity Centres at (29%) and India facing and third-party IT services accounted for 15% each. Flex occupier leasing volume accounted to 2.9 million square feet during H1 2023, the highest level in the last ten half-yearly periods. Although Bengaluru's office market has been predominantly led by third party IT services, GCCs also held the potential to be significant drivers of the market, the study found.

Leading despite volatility

Shantanu Mazumder, Executive Director, Bengaluru, at Knight Frank India said, "Bengaluru continues to be the most popular market for office occupiers despite difficulties including volatility in the IT sector and work-from-home laws."

The top commercial districts, ORR (outer ring road) and PBD (Peripheral Business District) East, were where the majority of office space was and the future demand for office space was anticipated to be supported by enterprises that decided to bring back their employees back to work, plus expansions activities of organisations with domestic focus.

New completions for office space was recorded at 6.4mn sq ft, higher by 10.3% YoY from 5.8 mn sq ft in H1 2022.

Bengaluru, in the first half of the calendar, registered residential sales of 26,247 units, a modest 2% degrowth from the same period in 2022.

The slowdown in sales was caused by the depletion of ready-to-move inventory, which was unable to keep up with the expanding demand.

With homebuyers favouring luxury lifestyle and bigger apartments, the share of sales in Rs 1 crore and above category grew from 10% in 2018 to 22% in H1 2023.

The City saw launches of 23,542 new residential units in H1 2023, an increase of 11% over the previous year, as per Knight Frank.

South Bengaluru maintained its dominance accounting for 39% of the city's total home sales while East Bengaluru continued to gain traction forking share of 31%.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 5, 1973

Surplus Lands in Mysore

Bangalore, July 4: The Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill which was recently passed by both the Houses of the Mysore Legislature is being sent for President's assent in two or three days. The amending legislation among other things prescribes a ceiling on holdings ranging from 10 to 54 acres.

The Mysore Government expects that about four lakh acres of surplus land will be available for redistribution after the implementation of the amending legislation.

The Government is already distributing Government waste lands for the landless and in the last two years, about 1.30 lakh acres have been granted through land grant committees at the taluk level. About three lakh more acres will be available for distribution.

Bangalore Traders' Protest

Bangalore, July 4: Merchants in the Krishnarajendra Market (City Market) went on a lightning strike here this morning protesting against the move of the Bangalore City Corporation to regulate the entry of lorries into the market.

They refused to open their shops for about three hours and the activities in the market was resumed only after the representatives of the merchants and the civic authorities had a discussion to iron out the differences.

Some merchants meantime did their business outside the market.

According to the Corporation authorities, the regulation was an experimental measure, since parking of lorries inside the market for long periods was adding to the congestion.

INBRIEF

Budget session extended by five days; to end on July 21

The ongoing Budget session has been extended by five days. The session, which was supposed to end on July 14, will now end on July 21. A decision to this effect was taken at the Business Advisory Committee meeting of the House on Tuesday. Announcing the decision of the BAC, Speaker U.T. Khader told the Assembly that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah would reply to the debate on the motion of thanks to the Governor's address to the joint session of the State legislature on Thursday.

Governor underlines need for job-oriented education

Governor of Karnataka Thawar Chand Gehlot stressed upon the imperative for universities to undertake effective measures to impart job-oriented education to students. He was speaking at the fourth convocation of Bangalore North University in Kolar.

Today, technology reigns supreme, and technical education plays a key role in fostering the nation's progress, said the Governor. He underlined the need for organizing seminars in universities and colleges to raise awareness among students about prevention of cyber crimes. He urged the Higher Education Minister and the University Chancellor to take prompt action in this regard, according to a release.

Uproar as BJP demand for discussion on guarantees is turned down

Party insisted on discussion before Question Hour. BJP members then resorted to dharna in both Assembly and Council

IN THE LEGISLATURE

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Both the Houses of the Karnataka legislature plunged into pandemonium on the second day of the Budget session on Tuesday, after the Opposition BJP staged a dharna in both Upper and Lower Houses, alleging that the Congress government led by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had "deceived" people of the State by "not implementing" the five guarantees promised in the party's poll manifesto.

In the Assembly, trouble began when Speaker U.T. Khader did not allow the former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to move an adjournment motion seeking a debate on non-implementation of the five guarantees by the Congress government, postponing the scheduled Question Hour and Zero Hour listed in the agenda.

BJP legislators staging a protest in the Legislative Assembly in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

As soon as the Question Hour started, Mr. Bommai appealed to the Speaker to give him an opportunity to make a preliminary submission on non-implementation of the guarantees.

When the Speaker turned down Mr. Bommai's demand, BJP members rushed to the Well of the House and staged a dharna. They shouted slogans against the Congress government.

'Unable to tolerate'

Mr. Siddaramaiah said that when he was the Leader of the Opposition, he had not been allowed to move an adjournment motion before the Question Hour. Mr. Siddaramaiah asked the Speaker not to concede to the BJP's demand.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said the Opposition was not able to tolerate implementation of the guarantees, and said the people voted out the BJP for non-performance.

As Congress and BJP members engaged in an argument, the Speaker adjourned the House for 15 minutes. The Speaker met Mr. Siddaramaiah and BJP members, but the meetings did not yield a positive result. Despite several appeals by the Speaker to withdraw the protest, BJP members continued their dharna and sloganeering.

Amid the pandemonium, Mr. Khader completed the Question Hour, and allowed Ministers to table papers related to various subjects.

JD(S) joins in

JD(S) members joined the dharna when K.M. Shivalinge Gowda (Congress) raised the issue of falling prices of coconut. Mr. Gowda blamed the BJP for its failure to ensure a reasonable price for coconut, and complained that farmers have been facing financial distress. JD(S) floor leader and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy countered Mr. Gowda's statement claiming that the Congress had promised ₹15,000 per quintal of coconut.

The BJP MLAs resumed their protest in the Assembly when the House met after the lunch break, even as the Speaker tried to explain procedural issues. He assured them of allowing them to take up the issue under a different clause. But the protesting members refused to heed, and eventually, the Speaker adjourned the House for the day after taking up call attention notices amidst the din.

In Council too

In a similar development in the Legislative Council, BJP members stalled proceedings demanding moving of an adjournment motion to discuss the guarantees by setting aside Question Hour and Zero Hour. Deputy Chairman M.K. Pranesh, who was in the chair, refused to accept the BJP's demand. As protests continued, the House had to be adjourned for the day.

BSY endorses HDK's corruption charges against govt. and says he will join hands in the fight

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Veteran BJP leader B.S. Yediyurappa on Tuesday endorsed JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy's allegations that there is corruption in the Congress dispensation and declared that he would join hands with him in the fight against corruption.

Former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy had alleged that there is 'YST' in addition to GST in the State. While Mr. Kumaraswamy had not elaborated on it, 'YST' has been interpreted as "Yathindra (Chief Minister's son) Sales Tax." Mr. Kumaraswamy had further alleged that there was corruption in Chief Minister's Office and somebody who had approached the CMO with a recommendation from an MLA had been asked to pay a bribe of ₹30 lakh.

BJP leaders B.S. Yediyurappa, D.V. Sadanada Gowda and others staging a protest at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Responding to Mr. Kumaraswamy's allegations, Mr. Yediyurappa told mediapersons in Bengaluru on Tuesday that there was truth in such allegations. He also said that the party would join hands with Mr. Kumaraswamy in the fight against corruption.

Later, when a section of media interpreted it as an indication that the BJP would forge an alliance with JD(S) in the State, Mr. Yediyurappa was quick to issue a clarification that he was only supporting Mr. Kumaraswamy's fight against corruption.

Meanwhile, the BJP, that staged an one-day protest in Bengaluru against the alleged delay by the Congress in implementing its guarantees, warned of taking up a statewide protest if the government failed to properly implement them. "Today's struggle is only a beginning," said Mr. Yediyurappa who led the protest at Freedom Park in Bengaluru in which most of the party's senior leaders, MPs and MLAs participated.

BSY to visit districts

"I will start visiting all the districts after the ongoing legislature session to hold meetings with party workers to prepare them for a State-level struggle against the anti-people policies of the Congress government," he said. Taking exception to moves on withdrawing of anti-conversion legislation and anti-cow slaughter bill and also the decision to revise textbooks, he accused the Congress government of pursuing politics of vendetta.

Senior leader K.S. Eshwarappa predicted that the Congress government would last three months. Referring to the political upheaval in the neighbouring Maharashtra, he remarked: "Karnataka's Ajit Pawar is waiting to arrive in the scene."

Congress, JD(S) continue to trade barbs over 'transfer mafia'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The ruling Congress and opposition Janata Dal (Secular) continued to trade barbs over former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy's allegation on "transfer mafia" working in the Congress government. In response to Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar who sought proof for cash for transfer allegations, Mr. Kumaraswamy asked if Congress had the courage to inquire if he presented documents.

"I have documents and I have the courage to provide proof if there is an inquiry set up to probe the transfer business. Does the Congress have the courage to set it up," he asked. He challenged the government to investigate transfers done during his regime in 2018-2019 as well as the five years of the Siddaramaiah-led government prior to that.

In response to Mr. Kumaraswamy's transfer allegations, the Karnataka Congress harked back to the time when he, as CM, stayed at the Taj West End. In a tweet, the party sought to know how much the former Chief Minister spent on room rent and its source. "You had started an adda at West End. How many crores did you spend?" Meanwhile, KPCC Working President B.N. Chandrappa retorted that Mr. Kumaraswamy was making allegations in desperation. "He was hoping to control the government in case of a hung Assembly, but people gave a mandate for the Congress. He is unable to digest the fact."

Suggestions sought on expanding Mysore Sandal's market

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil said on Tuesday that his department would take steps to expand the reach of Mysore Sandal soaps. As a first step, suggestions from industry experts have been invited. They can share their ideas by writing to karnatakavision2030@gmail. com. The Minister said the department will expand the market for the brand both across the nation and globally, according to a release.

Mysore Sandal soaps on display at a shop in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

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Tender Notice

File No. CMRL/PHASE-II/ SYS/CP26/ARE02A/2023 Dated: 05.07.2023

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Director (Systems and Operations)

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Government of Tamil Nadu
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E-TENDER NOTICE

Online tenders are invited by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA), towards the **Selection of System Integrator for Implementing and maintenance of Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) for all State Departments in Tamil Nadu.**

The tender document (RFP) can be downloaded at free of cost from **https://tntenders.gov.in/, https://tnega.tn.gov.in/** from **05.07.2023, at 15:00 hrs.**

Pre-bid meeting is scheduled online on **12.07.2023** at **11:30 hrs. through video conference (VC)** by TNeGA and the link for the VC can be referred in the RFP.

EMD for an amount of Rs.5,00,000/- has to be paid through online mode. Last date and time for online submission of bids through **https://tntenders.gov.in/** (e-Tender) is **07.08.2023** till **16:00 hrs.** Technical Bid shall be opened online on **07.08.2023** at **16:30 hrs.** Bidders are advised to participate in the pre-bid meeting scheduled by TNeGA.

DIPR/3396/Tender/2023

Director of e-Governance & Chief Executive Officer, TNeGA

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்".

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, DHARWAD
Estate Branch, Krishinagar, Dharwad-5
Fax:+91-836-2441188 Phone :+ 91-836-2214214
E mail: estateofficer@rediffmail.com Epabx:+91-836-2214332/ 216,444,214
No.EO/DB/TN/e-Proc.T-88/2023-24 Date: 22.06.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders have been invited from registered Contractors / agencies, for works at various campuses of the University. The details of the tender can be had through e-procurement portal (http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in). For more details please contact 0836-2214214/332 during office hours. Interested agencies need to register with the e-Procurement portal for participating in the tender. For details of registration please contact ph. No: **080-46010000.**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1.	Last Date & Time for Tender Queries / Clarifications.	15-07-2023	Up to	16.00 Hrs
2.	Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders.	21-07-2023	Up to	16.00 Hrs
3.	Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid.	22-07-2023	At	16.15 Hrs

Note: The bidders shall get updated / acquainted with ADDENDUM / CORRIGENDUM (if any) issued on-line from time to time on the e-procurement portal during the entire tender process.

DIPR/Dwd/71/2023-24/DeshpandePublicity Sd/- Estate Officer

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, SOUTHERN (R&B) CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
Phone: 0680-2281582, e-mail: ccescbam@gmail.com
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB) [e-Procurement]

Bid Identification No. CCE, S.C (R&B)-BAM-04/2023-24 No.2303//Dated:17.06.2023

1. The **Chief Construction Engineer, Southern (R&B) Circle, Berhampur** on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites **percentage rate bid** in double cover system in **ONLINE MODE** from eligible contractors for construction of **Road and Building Works** as detailed in the table below.
2. Nature of work : **Road and Building Works**
3. No. of work : **09 Nos.**
4. Tender Cost : **Rs.10,000/- (online)**
5. Class of Contractor : **"A" Class & "Special" Class**
6. Availability of Bid document in the website. : From **06.07.2023 10.00 AM to 21.07.2023 5.30 PM**
7. Date of Opening of Bid : **24.07.2023 at 11.30 A.M.**
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website **https://tendersodisha.gov.in.**
9. Any Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.

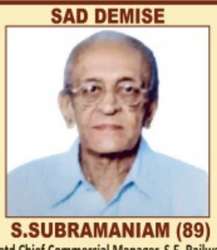
Sd/- (D.C.Behera), **Chief Construction Engineer, Southern (R&B) Circle, Berhampur.**

B-422: OIPR-34103/11/0005/2324

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

SAD DEMISE

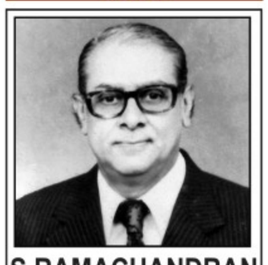


S.SUBRAMANIAM (89)
Retd Chief Commercial Manager, S.E. Railway
Passed away on 30th June 2023 at Hyderabad
Mourned by
Jaya Subramaniam, Nandini Girish & Sowmya
Ct: 09491869091, 040 - 27843687
They alone live who live for others ..... Swami Vivekananda

DEATH

Mrs Jeya Thanaseelan
Cofounder Mission to The Blind
W/o. Late Sam R Thanaseelan
Left to be with the Lord on July 04, 2023. She led millions of blind to Christ.
Funeral on July 5, 2023, 11 am at Mission To The Blind, Alex Nagar, Madhavaram, Chennai 600051

DEATH



S.RAMACHANDRAN
Manager, Air India (Retd)
02.02.1931 - 03.07.2023
Mourned by family and friends.
Ceremonies 7-9 am on July 6th 2023.
2A Glenmore, 3 Sriram Nagar North St, Alwarpet, Chennai 18.
Cremation 10 am Besant Nagar.
Ram Gopalakrishnan: 9841043813
Siddhartha Ramachandran: 9962389591

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Those who live uprightly enter a place of peace; they rest on their beds. - Isaiah 57:2

FOURTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

HONESTY :: HARD WORK :: HUMILITY

Date: 05.07.2009

KALVITHANTHAI Thiru. **OORVASI D. SELVARAJ** M.A., Ex-M.L.A.

FOUNDER : OORVASI SOAP

Pleasant Days The Finest Family Resort Hotel | QueensLand The Great Amusement Paradise | KINGS ENGINEERING COLLEGE

Beloved wife, Children and Brothers

Dr. **NALINI SELVARAJ** M.Com., M.Phil., Ph.D.,
Mr. **OORVASI S. AMIRTHARAJ** B.Tech, MBA (UK) - M.L.A., Srivaikundam,
Mrs. **Merliyn Jemima Amirtharaj** B.E., MBA.,
Mr.**S. Anandaraj** B.Tech., MBA., Mrs. **Mercy Angel Anandaraj** B.Com., MBA.,
Mrs. **S. Rajapriya Joelraja** M.A., Mr. **S. Joelraja** MBA.,
Mr. **D. Victor**, Mr. **D. Gnanaraj.**

Get pet, go!

A handful of eateries in the city have a dedicated menu for pets

Ruth Dhanaraj

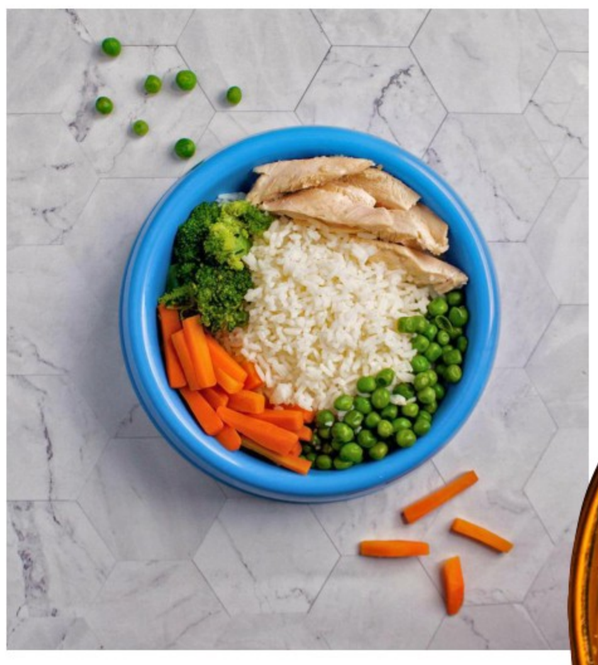
It's never fun watching your best friends enjoy themselves while you sit patiently waiting for them to call it a day. Teetotallers and designated drivers will totally get this and depending of the length of their tether, they will let you know as their patience wears thin.

However, furry and feathered buddies are either far too dignified to respond or are the reason pet parents do not step out with their wards. While there is a noticeable increase in the number of pet-friendly cafes, restaurants and pubs, only a handful have a pet-specific bill of fare. There is also a tendency to guise pet tolerance as pet friendliness, which means your four-legged friend is welcome but not catered to.

According to Krishnapriya B, head of marketing, URU Bistro Park, the ingredients in their pet menu were cleared by a veterinarian. "We wanted to serve fresh and nutritious dishes; at the same time we didn't want to inadvertently serve something that could be harmful," she says, adding that their 'bark bowls' are a wholesome mix of rice and vegetables.

Since 'you can't take a goldfish for a walk' or a cat for that matter, most pet-friendly places cater to a dog's palate. Even so, Gold Rush Brews has the Fishy Fishy on their menu – steamed rice served with fish broth and fish balls with broccoli, beans and carrots – which should have most hard-to-please felines purring with delight.

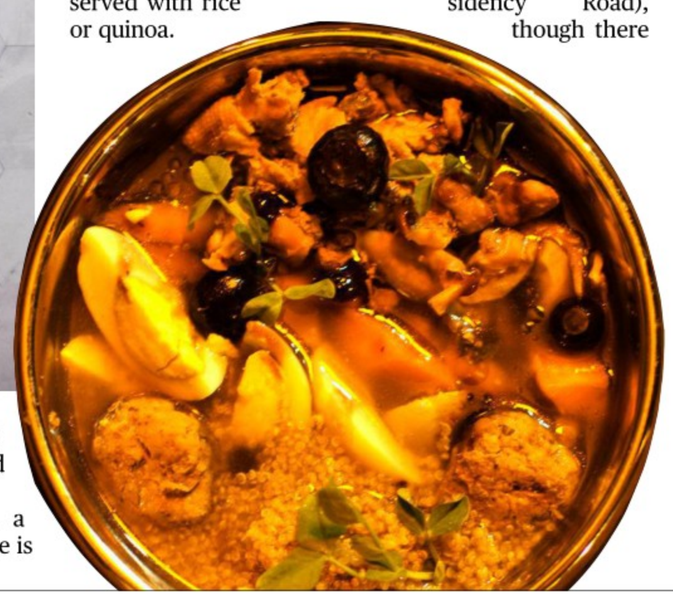
Since the Pet People Café is based on a plant-forward model, their four-footed guests also enjoy cruelty free dining with a range of mock meat dishes. "We have taken human-grade quality ingredients and made them safe for animal consumption after curating them for a pet palate, following trials. It's true the ingredients might be few, but they are completely safe," says Ambika Ramachandran, founder, Pet People Café.



Special meals for special guests These cafes ensure you and your pet pals can enjoy a day out together. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

While The Pet People Café has a special risotto and a fish-based dish, URU's special is 'pet beers', chicken broth cooked with malt, frozen and served chill.

Wherever there is a pet-specific menu, there is a good mix of protein and fibre in these dishes. Boiled eggs, ground meat and vegetables such as bell peppers, carrots, pumpkin, spinach and peas, are served with rice or quinoa.



Strawberries and blueberries are the most common fruits on pet menus.

At places such as Reservoire, Gawky Goose and Green Theory (only on Residency Road), though there is no set menu for pets, boiled rice, chicken and assorted vegetables are available on request. "A few pet parents are particular about avoiding outside food, which is why we don't have a pre-set menu. However, we do provide a few pet-friendly staples of boiled chicken and vegetables, if customers require it," says Robinson Lazar, general manager at Gawky Goose.

Just as hoomans relish dessert time, so do their four-legged friends. Gold Rush Brews has Frosty Paws - a concoction of customised ice cream, apple, bacon and blueberries - to round off their meal with something sweet. Pet People Café also offers blueberry or mango ice cream made with Greek yoghurt.

CITYBEATS

Fun with funkatrix

JULY 7 AND 8, 9.30PM
The band, Funkatrix, will perform in Bengaluru. The musicians include composer-guitarist Vinay Kaushal and drummer Shreyas Iyengar. They are into groovy rhythms, modern jazz influences, and soundscapes. Tickets on Windmills website.
At Windmills, Whitefield.

Concerts, the whole year

JULY 8, 4.30PM
Sangamam, founded by Kumari Shibulal, is holding a year-long series of musical concerts in Bengaluru. The festival begins with a concert by TM Krishna. The festival will feature Carnatic, Hindustani and folk music.
At St Johns Auditorium, Koramangala

A new menu

CURRENTLY ON
Burma Burma launches a new menu with a contemporary take on traditional Burmese cuisine. There will be dishes such as crunchy shiitake fingers, taro and tempeh pan-seared bao and soba noodles with tea leaf pesto to name a few. At Burma Burma's outlets and on Swiggy/Zomato.

EATING OUT

Tried, tested and served with a twist

Ruth Dhanaraj

It always pays to know where the watering holes are, in case you need to make a pit stop in the meandering wilderness that Bengaluru has become. If you are ever in the Whitefield part of the city and in the mood for a bite, you could check out Proxy Rooftop Bar and Kitchen. The approach road and even the interior of the hotel might raise eyebrows, but once you reach the rooftop, the transformation is pretty drastic. Open on three sides, Proxy is as breezy as its decor – a fusion of fun and functionality.

The menu too, takes the idea of fusion forward in an attempt to bring together the cuisines of the north and south of the country (or even the eastern and western influences of the globe). This could explain why traditional French ratatouille and chicken steak sit smack between *paneer* in hot garlic sauce and chicken *tikka* butter *masala* on the bill of fare.

This blend of tastes, flavours and ingredients makes for unusual combinations. Take for instance, the avocado *sev puri* dimpled with fresh pomegranate. While it definitely is not a *chaat* staple, it certainly makes for a conversation starter. One could say the same for the *sabudana* coconut *vada* served with chilli garlic *thecha* or the Tellicherry pepper chicken tikka accompanied by parmesan *pachadi*. The dishes could be considered ordinary fare, but what gives them a twist are the pairings.

Unlike many places in the city, there is a pretty decent spread of vegetarian offerings at Proxy. *Paneer* and tofu, bok choy and bamboo shoot, mock meat and mushroom, are as much a part of the menu as meat and seafood.

Here, non-vegetarians can find kebabs and sausages as easily as Karnataka style *saoji* chicken curry or smoked Jodhpur mutton, with the requisite breads and sides.

Easy breezy Proxy Rooftop and Bar offers dishes for every palate. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Proxy Rooftop Bar and Kitchen
Address: Proxy Rooftop Bar and Kitchen is located on the rooftop of Icon Select by Bhagini, in Mahadevapura
Phone: 9513397054 / 55
Ambience: Casual
Hits: Tellicherry pepper chicken tikka, tender coconut payasam
Misses: Bangalore Honey cake
Wallet factor: ₹1200 for two (without alcohol), ₹2200 for two (with alcohol)

Proxy certainly does justice to being a bar – their extensive drinks menu not only has all the classics such as paper planes and brambles as well as shooters and beer on tap, but there are also a couple of in-house creations such as the fiddle faddle (tequila, pink grapefruit and elderflower), tick tock (vodka and dill leaves) and Colossus (whiskey, smoked maple and cranberry), which leave you wanting to sample whatever the bartender concocts next.

Above all, Proxy deserves full marks for presentation whether food or drink. Every arrival at the table is accompanied by oohs and aahhs, followed by the few minutes to click snaps for social media. The interiors certainly provide scope for a lot of insta-worthy moments. There also is a limited-seating glass enclosure which would be ideal for working lunches or private parties.

Sadly, after the extensive drinks and food menu, the dessert section seems rather sparse with the most basic of offerings to round off your meal.

Incubating indie artists

Staff Reporter

Amplify Music Incubator, a national not-for-profit initiative, has announced its call for applications for the sixth edition of its program, beginning on August 14.

Launched in 2021 by Mumbai-based music agency Gatecrash, the incubator aims to provide support and infrastructure for independent artists who often lack opportunities in the industry.

The six-week program, known as AMI, consists of five weeks of online training followed by a week-long residency in Goa, concluding with a showcase. The initiative has already trained and supported numerous artists, including T.ill Apes, Easy Wanderlings, RANJ + Clifr, Bawari Basanti, and Shreyas Iyengar.

AMI's focus is on bridging the gap between the creative and business aspects of being an artist. The program covers a range of topics, such as creative collaboration, PR and promotions, copyrights and royalties, and the complex world of streaming. In its latest edition, AMI has introduced workshops on mental well-being, consultations with stylists, and one-on-one mentorship to help artists navigate content and release strategies.

Founder Tanish Thakker emphasises the program's commitment to continuous improvement, incorporating artists' feedback and adding vital workshops. This year, AMI is prioritising well-being with workshops on grounding in the creative space, yoga and meditation, intuitive art therapy, and dance therapy.

Supported by Institut Français, Canada's Music Incubator, and Believe, AMI continues to contribute to the development and growth of independent artists in India.

For registration and more information, visit gatecrash.in/education/

Play based on Manto's 'Saaz'

Bombay Theatre Group will stage its play *Jaam- E-Shahadat* – a theatrical adaptation of Saadat Hasan Manto's story Shahid - Saaz, which is a satirical look at the post-Partition era.

Set in 1948, the story is about a Punjabi migrant from Kathiawad, Gujarat, in India to Lahore in Pakistan. The man, who had a successful business running cocaine is now in search of a new big business in Pakistan, which he makes his home.

The cast includes Narendra Sachar and Sanjeeb Mehta and is directed by Narendra.

The play will be staged on July 7, 7pm at Atta Galatta. Tickets, ₹499, on BookMyShow.

Confederation of Indian Industry

Congratulates

Shri Narendra Modi

Hon'ble Prime Minister,
Government of India

on the historic visit to USA

Transformational impact on industry - Big boost to growth

- Manufacturing of jet engines in India would further strengthen collaboration and co-development of defence technologies
- Digital Partnership will help recognize the potential of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for enabling open and inclusive growth of digital economies
- Close collaboration around skills enhancement will ensure creation of a productive workforce
- Industry is committed to responsible growth in AI. A CII AI Forum is being set up to synergize initiatives between Government institutions, Research labs, Industries and Academia of India and US
- Creation of innovative investment platforms will lower the cost of capital and attract international private finance at scale to aid India's climate transition without affecting growth – a key benefit for industry
- Semiconductor collaboration would help India get aligned to a more central role in the global electronics supply chain
- Collaboration in Space sciences presents huge spectrum of growth, especially in technologies like Sensotronics, Data Analytics, Hi-Tech Supply chain and 6G
- A joint roadmap for R&D would create opportunities in Advanced Materials technologies like (1) Rare earths, (2) Graphene, (3) Nano Materials, and (4) Lithium
- The announcement of a new Joint Task Force would increase partnerships between Association of American Universities and leading Educational Institutions of India
- With the opening of new consulates in US and India, travel and tourism would get a boost – creating more employment
- Collaboration on pandemic preparedness, Pharma Supply chain, cancer program, digital health, R&D in vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics will enhance global access to safe, effective, affordable and innovative healthcare

CII

www.cii.in

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The number of mass shootings in the United States this year

340 At least three people were killed and eight wounded in a mass shooting in Texas on Monday night. In a separate incident on the same day in Philadelphia, five were killed. REUTERS

Budgetary and welfare support to Sri Lanka from the World Bank

250 in $ million. The country is going through its worst economic crisis since 1948. The World Bank last week announced that they approved $700 million to the debt-ridden country. PTI

Record-low number of babies born in Singapore in 2022

35,605 This was a 7.6% drop in the number of live births from 2021. The country also registered the highest number of deaths annually since 1960. PTI

Length of completed Ramban viaduct along Jammu-Srinagar

1.08 kilometres. The viaduct has been completed along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway. Restricted traffic, carrying Amarnath pilgrims, was allowed on a trial basis. PTI

The number of Palestinians killed this year in West Bank

140 In fact, 12 of the 140 were under the age of sixteen. The Israeli army launched a widespread campaign into Palestinian towns last year. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The student debt crisis in the U.S.

What was the earlier plan of U.S. President Joe Biden to cancel student loan debt and why did the U.S. Supreme Court block it? What is the new plan and how is it connected to the 2003 HEROES Act? Why is the Biden administration promoting broad loan cancellations?

EXPLAINER

Diksha Munjal

The story so far:

U.S. President Joe Biden has already released a new plan to cancel billions in student loan debt after the Supreme Court of the U.S. (SCOTUS) in a 6-3 decision on June 30 blocked his ambitious plan to cancel $430 billion in debt.

How big is the U.S. student loan debt?

As per the latest Federal Reserve figures, more than 45 million Americans owe a total of $1.77 trillion in student debt to the U.S. government. As per the Congressional Research Service (CRS), approximately 63% of the U.S. population over the age of 25 has at some time enrolled in some level of higher education and roughly 17% of the country's population aged 18 or above has federal student loans. Meanwhile, the median student loan debt is just above $17,000.

Research by the nonprofit College Board suggests that over the past three decades, the cost of higher education has risen sharply in the U.S., doubling at private four-year colleges and universities and rising even further at public four-year schools. Between 2006 and 2019, the outstanding balance of student loans has nearly quadrupled.

In the U.S., the federal government is the primary source of student loans, running several loan programmes to help students and their families finance higher education.

What are the repayment options?

Once a student borrows a federal loan, they enter into a contractual obligation to repay the loan with interest. They can sign up for specific repayment plans, with repayment periods spanning a decade or more. Under a standard 10-year repayment plan, a borrower has to make 120 equal payments of principal and interest spread over a decade.

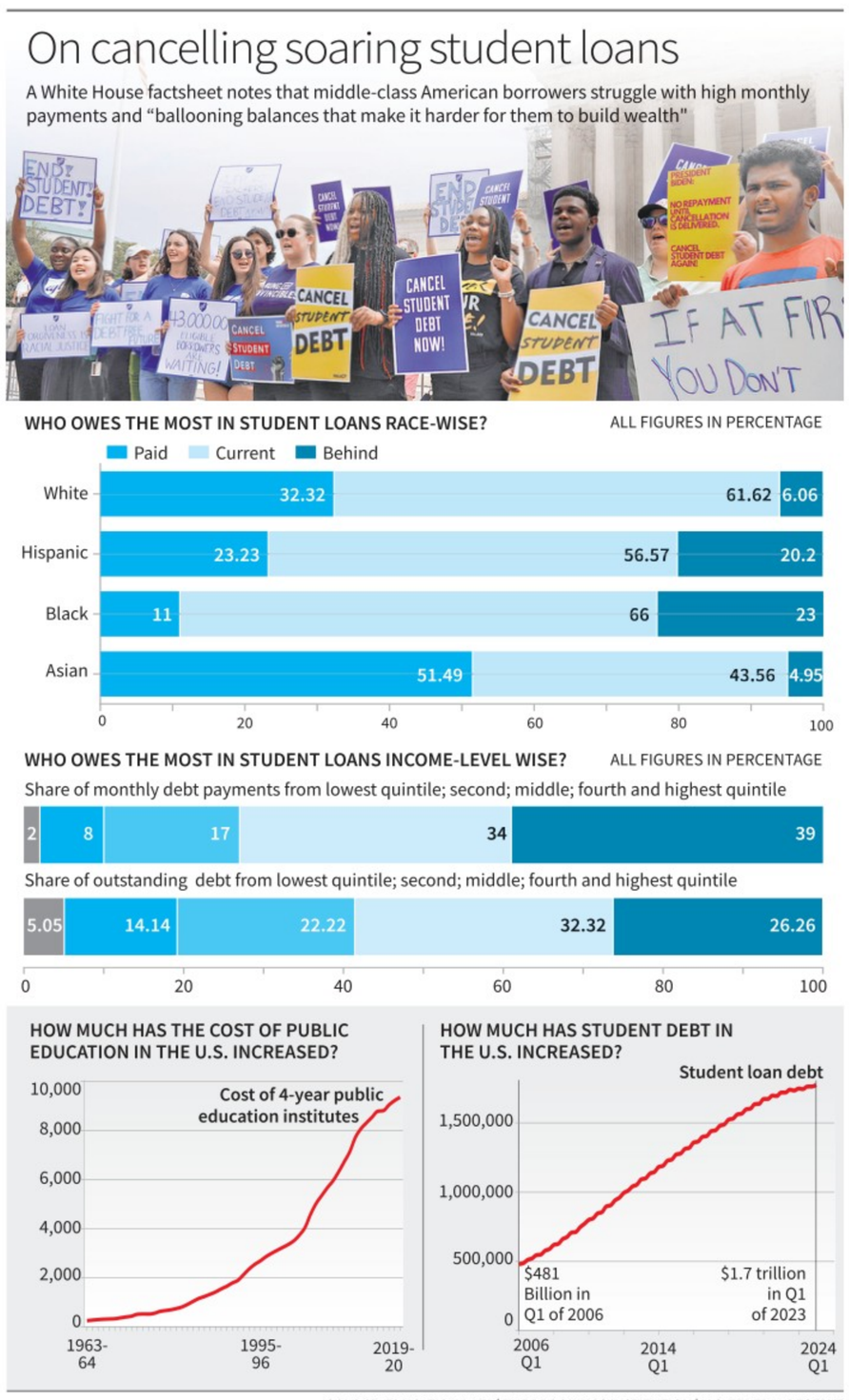
Then there are income-driven repayment (IDR) plans, the kind that President Biden wanted to alter in order to cancel student debt. Such plans cap the monthly payment installments at a share of the borrower's discretionary income, say 10%-15%; extend the repayment period over a span of 20 or 25 years, and forgive or write off any unpaid principal and interest remaining after that period.

What was Mr. Biden's original plan?

The plan, announced in August 2022, was supposed to cancel $10,000 in federal student loan debt for those making less than $1,25,000 a year or households making less than $2,50,000.

College students qualified if their loans were disbursed before July 1. The plan made 43 million borrowers eligible for some debt forgiveness, with 20 million possibly having their entire debt erased, according to the Biden administration. The White House said that 26 million people had applied for debt relief, and 16 million people already had their relief approved. As per the Congressional Budget Office, the program would cost about $400 billion over the next three decades.

The Education Department also proposed to improve the existing income-driven plan mentioned above, capping monthly payments for undergraduate loans at 5% of a borrower's discretionary income, down from the current 10%. The administration claimed that the plan, the Revised Pay as You Earn (REPAYE) plan, would mean lowering of the average annual student loan payment by more than $1,000 for both current and future borrowers.


On cancelling soaring student loans
A White House factsheet notes that middle-class American borrowers struggle with high monthly payments and "ballooning balances that make it harder for them to build wealth"
END STUDENT DEBT!
CANCEL STUDENT DEBT NOW!
CANCEL STUDENT DEBT
IF AT FIR
YOU DON'T
WHO OWES THE MOST IN STUDENT LOANS RACE-WISE?
ALL FIGURES IN PERCENTAGE
Paid
Current
Behind
White 32.32 61.62 6.06
Hispanic 23.23 56.57 20.2
Black 11 66 23
Asian 51.49 43.56 4.95
0 20 40 60 80 100
WHO OWES THE MOST IN STUDENT LOANS INCOME-LEVEL WISE?
ALL FIGURES IN PERCENTAGE
Share of monthly debt payments from lowest quintile; second; middle; fourth and highest quintile
2 8 17 34 39
Share of outstanding debt from lowest quintile; second; middle; fourth and highest quintile
5.05 14.14 22.22 32.32 26.26
0 20 40 60 80 100
HOW MUCH HAS THE COST OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE U.S. INCREASED?
Cost of 4-year public education institutes
10,000
8,000
6,000
4,000
2,000
0
1963-64
1995-96
2019-20
HOW MUCH HAS STUDENT DEBT IN THE U.S. INCREASED?
Student loan debt
1,500,000
1,000,000
500,000
0
$481 Billion in Q1 of 2006
$1.7 trillion in Q1 of 2023
2006 Q1
2014 Q1
2024 Q1
SOURCE: EDUCATION DATA | THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION | U.S. FEDERAL RESERVE

Why did the plan run into trouble?

There were two legal challenges to the plan which landed in the Supreme Court – one involving six Republican-led States and the other filed by two students.

In the case filed by the students, they argued, among other things, that the Biden administration didn't go through the proper process in enacting the plan. Texas-based U.S. District Judge Mark Pittman, appointed by former President Donald Trump, opined that Mr. Biden overstepped his authority. To cancel the debt, the Biden government relied on the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act, commonly known as the HEROES Act, which was enacted in the aftermath of the 9/11 attack and allows the Secretary of Education to waive or modify terms of federal student loans during times of war or national emergency. The White House cited the COVID-19 pandemic as a national emergency.

The ruling, however, argued that the HEROES Act did not accord the Secretary the authority for mass debt cancellation. The judge said it only granted flexibility during national emergencies, adding that it was unclear whether debt cancellation was a necessary response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which Mr. Biden had by then declared as over.

As for the suit by the six States– Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and South Carolina – a lower court dismissed it, ruling that the States could not challenge the programme as they were unable to show that they were harmed by it. However, the case went to a panel in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit, after which, the Supreme Court agreed to weigh in. On June 30, SCOTUS held that the administration needs Congress' endorsement before undertaking such a costly programme. The majority rejected arguments that the bipartisan 2003 HEROES Act gave Mr. Biden the power that he claimed.

What is Mr. Biden's new plan?

Mr. Biden announced on the day of the Court ruling that the Education Secretary had initiated a new rulemaking process for the alternative plan, this time using the Secretary's authority under the Higher Education Act (HEA), 1965, the law governing most federal student loan programmes.

"I'm announcing today a new path consistent with today's ruling to provide student debt relief to as many borrowers as possible as quickly as possible," Biden said. "We will ground this new approach in a different law than my original plan, with the so-called Higher Education Act," the President said. The plan is also going to take longer as the actual process of negotiated rule making could take as far as fall this year.

While the President contends the new path is consistent with the Court's opinion, legal scrutiny could be expected. Meanwhile, advocate and legal scholar Luke Herrine, an assistant professor of law at the University of Alabama, wrote in a 2019 paper that the "compromise and settlement" authority, a clause in the HEA, empowers the Secretary of Education with the broad authority to "compromise, waive, or release'' federal student debt.

Instead of the current REPAYE plan, the administration has proposed the new Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE) plan. "This income-driven repayment plan will cut borrowers' monthly payments in half, allow many borrowers to make $0 monthly payments, and save all other borrowers at least $1,000 per year," says the factsheet on the plan.

The specifics remain the same – requiring borrowers to pay half the current share of discretionary income at 5%. Instead of forgiving loan balances after 20 years of annual payments, this plan also forgives outstanding principal after 10 years. Additionally, the plan seeks to raise the amount of income that is considered non-discretionary and therefore is protected from repayment. As for borrowers currently facing uncertainty, the President says they will be able to enrol for SAVE later this summer, "before any monthly payments are due." Borrowers who sign up or are already signed up for the REPAYE plan will be automatically enrolled.

What are the arguments for and against broad loan cancellation?

Proposals for broad-scale student loan debt relief – including cancellation of all or a portion of federal student loan debt – have gained considerable attention in recent years. As the cost of education increases while wages stagnate, it has become harder for students to pay off their loans. Studies also point out how federal grants and scholarships have not kept pace with the increasing cost of education and attendance.

President Biden has explained the need for loan cancellation by arguing that higher education "should be a ticket to a middle-class life, but for too many, the cost of borrowing for college is a lifelong burden that deprives them of that opportunity." A White House factsheet notes that middle-class American borrowers struggle with high monthly payments and "ballooning balances that make it harder for them to build wealth".

CRS Research also points to the composition of borrowers, of which "black students were more likely to borrow" loans for undergraduate and graduate education "relative to any other racial or ethnic subgroup". It also finds that certain groups of borrowers (Black, American Indian, and lower-income borrowers) have made less progress in paying down the original principal of debt when compared with other borrowers.

The government also noted how student debt burden falls disproportionately on Black borrowers. "Twenty years after first enrolling in school, the typical Black borrower who started college in the 1995-96 school year still owed 95% of their original student debt," the White House factsheet on student debt reads.

On the other hand, critics of broad-based cancellation of loans point out how a one-time loan cancellation may fail to address the underlying causes of crushing loan debt. One major cause is the skyrocketing cost of education and the need for an overhaul of the system.

Analysts have highlighted that policies providing broad loan cancellation may result in higher-income households receiving more cancellation benefits compared to lower-income households when the total dollar amounts cancelled or the savings in annual debt service payments are looked at. Besides, large cancellation plans may also significantly impact federal budgets and debt.

(With inputs from Reuters, AP)

THE GIST

As per the latest Federal Reserve figures, more than 45 million Americans owe a total of $1.77 trillion in student debt to the U.S. government.

President Biden has explained the need for loan cancellation by arguing that higher education "should be a ticket to a middle-class life, but for too many, the cost of borrowing for college is a lifelong burden that deprives them of that opportunity."

Critics of broad-based cancellation of loans point out how a one-time loan cancellation may fail to address the underlying causes of crushing loan debt.

Pay tribute to Alluri Sitarama Raju by imbibing his values, says President

The message to be drawn from the life of the tribal warrior is to work selflessly and fearlessly for the well-being of the deprived sections of society; his struggle against injustice is a proud chapter in India's freedom struggle, says Murmu

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

President Droupadi Murmu invoked the Telugu movie *Alluri Sitarama Raju* and the song by Sri Sri "*Telugu veera levara... Deeksha booni saagara*" (Take a vow and move forward) while paying tribute to the freedom fighter Alluri Sitramam Raju at the closing ceremony of his 125th birth anniversary celebrations in Hyderabad on Tuesday.

"Children still remember the song that fills them with pride," said the President who described Alluri Sitarama Raju's struggle against injustice and exploitation as a proud chapter in India's freedom struggle. She said that all Indians, especially the younger generation, should be aware of his patriotism and courage.

President Droupadi Murmu with Telangana CM K. Chandrasekhar Rao and Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy during 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Alluri Sitarama Raju in Hyderabad. PTI

Earlier, she went around an exhibition of paintings showing the life and times of the freedom fighter. The President said that the character of Alluri Sitarama Raju is an example of uniting society without any discrimination based on caste and class. She dwelt on how Sitarama Raju worked with the tribal people of the Agency areas, in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh, and united them to fight against the British.

"He is being remembered as a tribal warrior and it is his true identity. He kept fighting for the rights of the tribal society till his martyrdom," she said.

The President said that working selflessly and fearlessly for the well-being of the deprived sections of society is the message to be drawn from the life of Alluri Sitarama Raju. She added that we could pay him real tribute only by adopting his ideals in our conduct. She urged all to adopt the values and ideals of Alluri Sitarama Raju in the interest of society and the country.

Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan, Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao, and Union Minister of Culture G. Kishan Reddy joined the President in paying rich tributes to the freedom fighter.

Sexual abuse: Pvt. home sealed

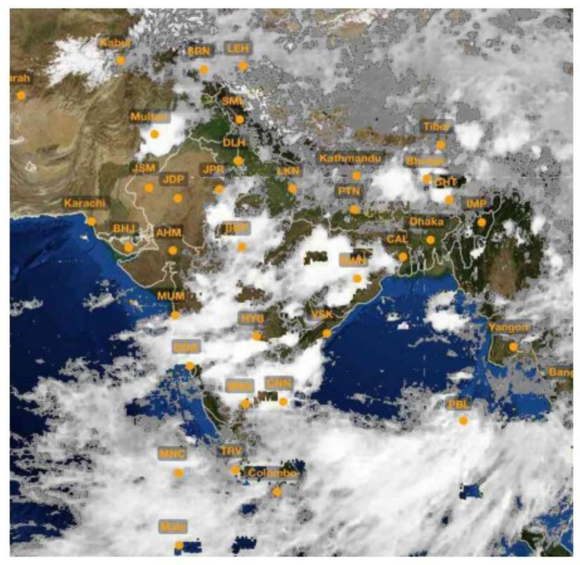
The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Chengalpattu district administration on Tuesday sealed an unlicensed private home at a village near Thiruporur after the police arrested its administrator on charges of sexual harassment and abuse. The inmates were shifted to other places, including Institute of Mental Health (IMH).

Veeramani, 70, was running Anbagam at Panankattupakkam for 15 years. It housed women with mental retardation and illness and senior citizens admitted for treatment. The police said a video of a woman inmate alleging sexual harassment was circulated on Twitter and WhatsApp. It was forwarded to Collector A.R. Rahul Nadh, who asked District Officer for Differently Abled J. Senthil Kumari to investigate.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 19.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	11.8	35.7	27.3	Kozhikode	54	26.6	23.4
Ahmedabad	—	36.4	27.7	Kurnool	—	35.5	26.0
Aizawl	0.4	32.7	22.5	Lucknow	22	31.3	27.4
Allahabad	—	35.1	25.6	Madurai	0.1	34.2	24.2
Bengaluru	4	27.1	20.3	Mangaluru	115.6	26.2	22.7
Bhopal	—	—	26.0	Mumbai	20	29.0	25.4
Bhubaneswar	0.4	36.1	27.6	Mysuru	—	33.0	23.0
Chandigarh	6	34.4	25.4	New Delhi	—	37.7	29.6
Chennai	—	34.3	27.0	Patna	3	34.4	27.2
Coimbatore	0.2	28.4	22.2	Port Blair	10	29.4	24.2
Dehradun	18	32.5	22.4	Puducherry	19.7	33.0	25.2
Gangtok	43	20.4	18.3	Pune	1.6	30.8	23.6
Goa	53	28.0	23.4	Raipur	—	37.4	28.5
Guwahati	—	34.7	25.6	Ranchi	—	34.6	25.4
Hubballi	—	27.0	23.0	Shillong	0.9	23.8	18.0
Hyderabad	—	33.7	25.2	Shimla	1	24.0	17.0
Imphal	—	31.3	21.9	Srinagar	—	30.5	17.8
Jaipur	—	36.5	26.6	Thiruvananthapuram	30	26.8	23.5
Kochi	121	26.2	23.0	Tiruchi	—	35.7	27.0
Kohima	7	26.6	18.6	Vijayawada	8	31.3	25.6
Kolkata	14	36.3	28.4	Visakhapatnam	—	35.0	28.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.31	..43	.39	53	81	.....
Bengaluru	.23	.32	.57	.....—	55	.....
Chennai	...8	..13	.66	41	91	.....
Delhi	.18	235	.89	...110	...126	.....
Hyderabad	.11	..11	.42	46	88	.....
Kolkata	...3	.34	.18	24	38	.....
Lucknow	...5	..21	.53	31	34	.....
Mumbai	...2	..80	.51	...135	90	.....
Pune	133	217	111	49	44	.....
Visakhapatnam	.14	..57	.20	57	...103	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Kolhapur, Maharashtra recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 338 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Sivasagar, Assam recorded a healthy AQI score of 16

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Karnataka LoP: Ball now in the court of BJP central leadership

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The process of selection of the Leader of the Opposition by the BJP central leadership appears to have reached the final stage with the two observers deputed by the high command completing the process of eliciting views of senior leaders and legislators on Tuesday. With this, the ball is now in the party high command's court, as they have to take a call based on the inputs from the observers.

The party State leaders are expecting an announcement on Wednesday. However, there is no official word yet by the central leadership on the process of selection.

Mansukh Mandaviya is among the two Central observers deputed by the BJP high command.

The two Central observers – Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya and party national general secretary Vinod Tawde – arrived in Bengaluru on Tuesday and held consultations at the party office with senior leaders, MLAs, office-bearers, and heads of frontal organisations.

72 leaders spoken to

According to sources, the central observers were able to elicit the views of 72 leaders, including MLAs. Later, they also met party parliamentary board member B.S. Yediyurappa separately.

Central observers complete the process of eliciting views of State leaders and MLAs, even as day two of the legislature session was held without an LoP

As of now, the choice appears to be among the former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, Hindutva hardliner Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, the former Minister Sunil Kumar, the former Deputy Chief Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan, and the former Minister Araga Jnanendra.

The process of selection of the Leader of the Opposition also hinges on the likely choice of the party high command for the party State president's post as the two posts will have to be given to different communities for ensuring equitable political representation.

State president's post

Interestingly, the party central leadership on Tuesday announced the names of State presidents for four States, including two southern States, keeping that of Karnataka in pending.

The former Deputy Chief Minister K.S. Eshwarappa told media persons after meeting the central observers that he would want leaders with Hindutva ideology and uncompromising attitude to occupy both the posts.

The BJP set a precedence in Karnataka's legislature history as the second day's session too was held without the Leader of the Opposition. BJP senior leaders, particularly MLAs, are concerned over the delay in the selection of the Leader of the Opposition. They are hoping that the high command may announce the name before the commencement of the third day's session at least.

THE HINDU GROUP

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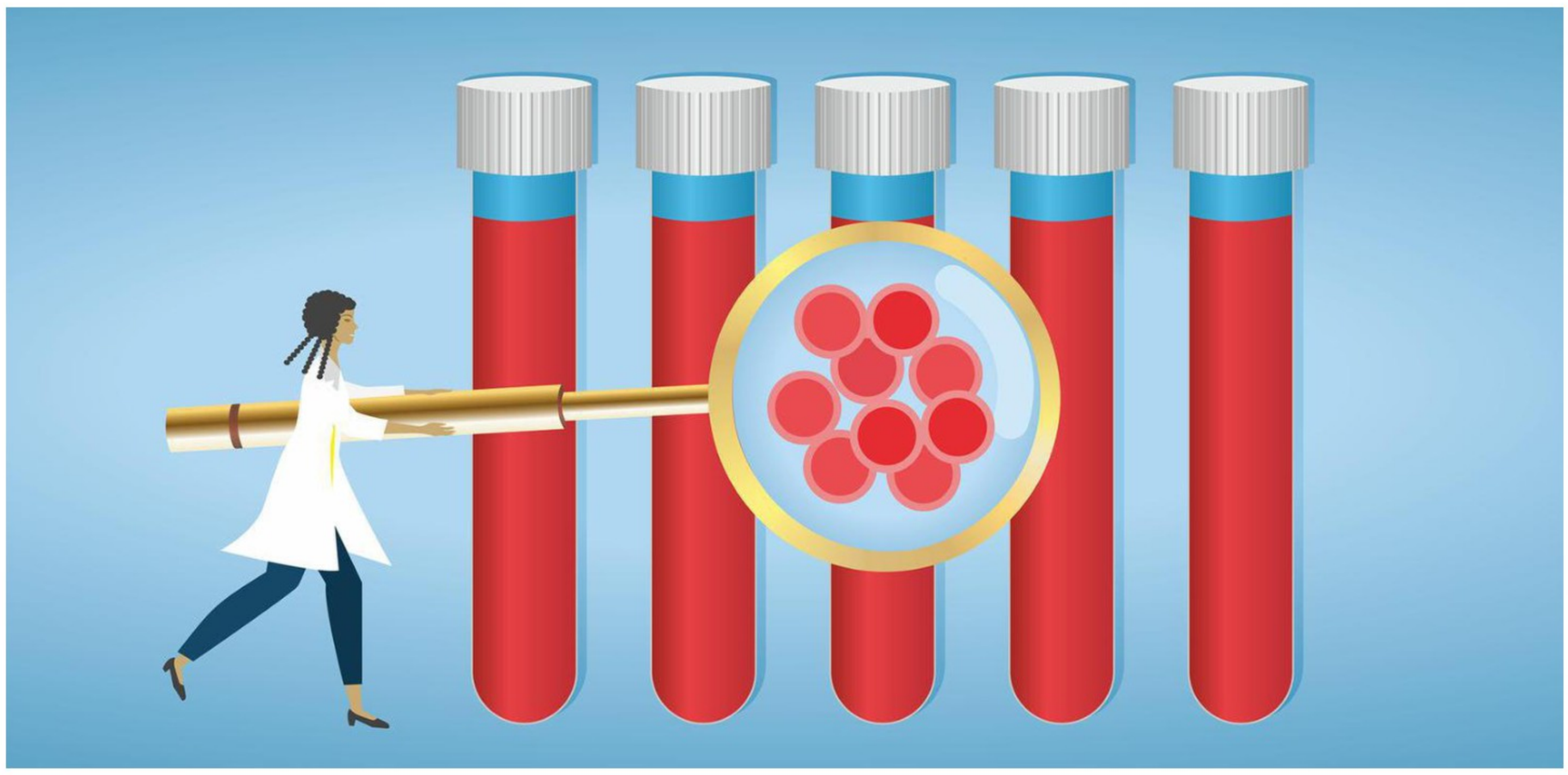
ABSTRACT



ISTOCKPHOTO

The irrevocable connection between anaemia and maternal health

A study conducted on anaemic pregnant women of low-and middle-income countries has found that there is a strong link between anaemia and postpartum haemorrhage, with the risk of death or near miss very high

Ramya Kannan

The WOMAN-2 trial collaborators, 'Maternal anaemia and the risk of postpartum haemorrhage: a cohort analysis of data from the WOMAN-2 trial', The Lancet, June 27, 2023, doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(23)00245-0

Of late anaemia has been in the news in India, what with the government proposing to remove a question on it from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) and instead do a more elaborate test to determine haemoglobin levels in the blood as part of the Diet and Biomarker (DAB) survey. A paper recommending that normative values for haemoglobin must be lowered in India, based on a small study, has also come in for criticism. The WhatsApp groups of two professional sectors, where repartees have been flying hard and fast are those belonging to nutritionists and obstetricians and gynaecologists. The latter groups who have actually seen the impact of anaemia especially on maternal and infant health have been articulating their views on keeping the standards for anaemia, and to not amend them based on a statistically insignificant study. Policy makers in India must allow the results of a multi-country study published recently in *The Lancet* to inform their rules on measuring anaemia, handling it and making sure the interventions are sensible and far reaching.

Anaemia and pregnancy

Anaemia has a very strong link with postpartum haemorrhage (excessive vaginal bleeding after delivery), and the risk of death or near miss is very high.

As per the study, by the WOMAN (World Maternal Antifibrinolytic)-2 trial collaborators, worldwide, more than half a billion women of reproductive age are anaemic. Each year, about 70,000 women who give birth die from postpartum haemorrhage, almost all of them in low-and middle-income countries. While a known risk of anaemia or low haemoglobin levels is postpartum death, researchers decided to examine in detail the association between anaemia and the risk of postpartum haemorrhage.

This trial enrolled over 10,000 women with moderate or severe anaemia giving birth vaginally in hospitals in Pakistan, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Zambia, countries where anaemia in pregnancy was common and established by other trials. They examined the continuous association between prebirth haemoglobin and the risk of postpartum haemorrhage in a large cohort of women from low-and middle-income countries. The advantage of examining anaemia as a continuous variable, the authors argued, is that demonstration of a monotonic biological gradient is more suggestive of a causal relationship. The outcome was defined as an occurrence of postpartum haemorrhage, defined in three ways: "clinical postpartum haemorrhage (estimated blood loss ≥500 mL or any blood loss sufficient to compromise haemodynamic stability); WHO-defined postpartum haemorrhage (estimated blood loss of at least 500 mL); and calculated postpartum haemorrhage (blood loss of ≥1,000 mL).

Blood loss and shock

The mean age of the women from Pakistan, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zambia was just over 27 years. There was clear evidence from the study that lower haemoglobin values had a direct relationship with volume blood loss, and clinical postpartum haemorrhage. "We found that with decreasing maternal haemoglobin concentration, the risk of postpartum haemorrhage increases monotonically," the authors recorded.

Anaemia reportedly reduces the oxygen-carrying capacity of blood, and therefore, women with anaemia cannot tolerate the same volume of bleeding as healthy women, and become shocked after a smaller volume blood loss, the authors reasoned. Further they added, "Given the lack of an established definition of postpartum haemorrhage in women with anaemia, before conducting this study, we examined different definitions of postpartum haemorrhage in terms of their specificity for substantial bleeding, and their association with fatigue, physical endurance, and breathlessness." They eventually found that a clinical diagnosis of postpartum haemorrhage was highly specific for clinical signs of shock and irrevocably associated with worse maternal function.

The mean estimated blood loss post delivery was 301 mL for the 8,791 (3.2%) women with moderate anaemia and 340 mL for the 1,770 (16.8%) women with severe anaemia. 742 (7.0% of the total) women had clinical postpartum haemorrhage. The risk of clinical postpartum haemorrhage was 6.2% in women with moderate anaemia and higher, 11.2% in women with severe anaemia. Fourteen women died and 68 either died or had a near miss. Severe anaemia was associated with seven times higher odds of death or near miss than was moderate anaemia. Researchers further said that a 10 g/L reduction in prebirth haemoglobin increased the odds of clinical postpartum haemorrhage.

The authors went on to recommend that attention should be given to the prevention and treatment of anaemia in women once they hit reproductive age.

Preventing anaemia

The Indian government has a well-structured project to provide weekly iron and folic acid supplements to adolescent girls (and boys), in order to tackle the looming crisis of anaemia. The climb to a barely-acceptable haemoglobin content of 12 for women seems very steep, given the nutrition status of these children, primarily in rural areas, where quality and quantity of what they eat is less than ideal,and is only exacerbated by malabsorption, public health, experts added.

The task has already been cut out for the Indian public health programme. Health managers are aware of the risks of anaemia and know what to do to handle it. However, the rising levels of anaemia in the country is a source of concern and mandates that any project to bring down anaemia in the country must be on mission mode. The solution is not to bring down the gold standard laboratory readings literally. While the argument to detach anaemia from the NFHS is that the DAB would be undertaking a more elaborate blood draw to measure haemoglobin levels accurately, the argument against it is also that such a measure may not be feasible for a large group of people, who may say okay to a capillary blood draw (finger prick) but baulk at a venous blood drawal. Any public outreach programme must be mindful of the cultural, social realities and have a sense of the attitudes of the people they are targeting. If these factors are not sewn into a public health programme, the outcomes may be far from what was sought or planned, experts said.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subramanian

Sir, Ms. Sujatha E. Shrigeli, 10-2-52 Kumbarwadi, Raichur, wants to know which of the two is correct: (a) one hundred per cent (b) cent per cent."

"Cent per cent is rather archaic. I agree with you one hundred per cent and not I agree with you cent per cent.

His answers were one hundred per cent correct.

His views are a hundred per cent wrong.

'Cent per cent' is widely used in India."

"Sir, Mr. L. R. Subbiah Chettiar, Lakshmi Vilar, Devakottai, wants to know the difference between 'infectious' and 'contagious'."

" 'Infection' is communication of disease, especially by agency of air, water, etc. Typhoid is an infectious disease. 'Contagious' means 'communication of disease from body to body'. A contagious disease is a disease that is transmitted to another by physical contact. AIDS is contagious, while other diseases are generally the result of some deficiency. Contagious and infectious diseases are caused by germs. When used figuratively both 'contagious' and 'infectious' mean 'rapidly passed on to others'.

Fear is infectious.

His enthusiasm is contagious.

He has an infectious sense of humour."

"Sir, Mr. R. Balasaubramanian, 2-2-647/33, Central Excise Colony, Hyderabad, wants to know the origin of the word 'abracadabra'."

" 'Abracadabra' means 'spell, magic formula, nonsense'. The exact origin of the word is unknown. Some say it is a combination of the initials of the Hebrew words Ab, father, Ben, son and Ruach Acadosch, Holy Spirit. 'Abracadabra' is a magical incantation. Incantation is important for the magician: to those who listen, it may sound nonsensical. Hence you have both meanings.

It is all abracadabra to me.

The word was written in triangular form and hung from the neck as a charm against disease, misfortune, etc. The first and the fourth 'a' are pronounced like the 'a' in 'man' and the other a's like the 'a' in 'China'. The stress is on 'da'."

"Sir, Mr. P. Prabhat Menon, Chunnambuthara, Palghat, wants to know whether there is any difference between 'I saw him two days ago' and 'I saw him two days before'."

"Today is the 12th July, 1988. When you say 'I saw him two days ago', you mean you saw him on 10th July, 1988. When you refer to a specific time in the past, you use 'ago'.

He was here 10 minutes ago.

Long, long ago, there was a king.

That happened 10 months ago.

We ate an hour ago.

It was 10 minutes ago that he left.

'Ago' refers to a time prior to the present. 'I saw him two days before' is incorrect. 'Before' is used to indicate a time earlier than another time in the past.

When I went to meet John, I was told that he had left for Calcutta two hours before.

I met him the day before yesterday."

Published in The Hindu on July 19, 1988

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On July 5, 1989, *Seinfeld*, an American television sitcom premiered on NBC. A quiz on the show that is regarded as one of the most influential sitcoms of all time

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1

In the episode 'The Wife', Jerry Seinfeld and his girlfriend pretend to be husband and wife. Jerry's quasi-wife was played by an acclaimed American actress just prior to her breakthrough as a star. Who played the role?

QUESTION 2

Many Seinfeld episodes are based on the writers' real-life experiences. The episode 'The Strike' is based on one of the writers on the show, Dan O'Keefe's dad, who made up his own holiday. What is the name of the holiday? What is it celebrated for?

QUESTION 3

The lexicon of Seinfeldian code words and recurring phrases that evolved around particular episodes is referred to by a particular term. What is it? It is also the title of one more thing related to Jerry Seinfeld. What is it?

QUESTION 4

Many prominent recurring characters were based on well-known people. Jacopo of the J. Peterman catalogue was based on which person? What is he?

QUESTION 5

The episode 'The Keys' contains a crossover to a CBS show. What is the name of the show?

QUESTION 6

What are common to the shows *Watching Ellie, Bob Patterson, Listen Up!* and *The Michael Richards Show*? What is the term associated with these shows?

Visual question:
Identify this building, that is related to the show.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This is the city where the U.S. Declaration was adopted and these many people signed the document. **Ans: Philadelphia and 56 delegates to the Second Continental Congress**
2. The claim to fame of John Hancock. **Ans: His is the largest signature on the famous document.**
3. What are the 'Dunlap Broadsides'. **Ans: These are 200 original copies of the Declaration, made by a printer named John Dunlap.**
4. This person wrote the Declaration. **Ans: Thomas Jefferson. He passed away on July 4, 1826**
5. This was the day Congress signed the Declaration. **Ans: August 2, 1776**
6. The message on the back of the Declaration of Independence. **Ans: Original Declaration of Independence dated 4th July 1776.**
Visual: The depiction in the 'Declaration of Independence'. **Ans: The five-man drafting committee of the Declaration of Independence presenting their work to Congress.**
Early Birds: Hardika Choudhary| Harish| Animesh Mohan| Sarvesha Das

Word of the day

Vainglorious:
feeling self-importance

Synonyms: big, swelled

Usage: *His vainglorious attitude after the promotion is creating tensions in the department.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/vainglorioustpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˌveɪnˈglɔːɹi.əs/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

OPPORTUNITIES

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT • JOBS • TECHNOLOGY

Geographies divided over 'power skills'

According to a recent study, in India, teamwork, generosity and optimism take centre stage in the workplace

A recent study by talent-related solutions provider SHL emphasises "the increasing significance of behavioural or soft skills over technical skills in meeting the evolving demands of organisations". Along with this one, it presents an intellectually stimulating finding: Each geography varies from every other, greatly or marginally, in terms of the soft skills most preferred at the workplace.

"Skills of the Future and Where to Find Them," as the study is called, presents its conclusions, applying data from a global sample of nearly 70,000 individuals from diverse backgrounds. Reportedly, SHL's analysis draws upon industry analyst Josh Besin's research in the area, more specifically Bersin's PowerSkills framework which it has mapped to its assessment tool. The study provides an aggregated view of the unique skill profiles for each region and across six broad industry sectors: retail, healthcare, banking and financial services, manufacturing, energy and telecommunications.

Based on regions

The SHL study underlines how every region has a unique profile of strengths with optimism, integrity and generosity featuring as key power skills for several regions. Across India, teamwork, generosity and optimism are prevalent compared to integrity, generosity and ethics in most other regions of Asia. Europeans excel in flexibility, communication and kindness, while North Americans display tenacity and strong time management skills.

Based on industries

While empathy, followership, curiosity, and drive were not listed within the top attributes for any region, they were cited as critical strengths within industries.

For example, drive is abundant in the manufacturing and banking and financial sectors, and empathy in retail and healthcare. Tapping into shared power skills across industries can provide recruiters with a fresh approach when struggling to fill open positions.

Representational photo GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK PHOTO

Europeans excel in flexibility, communication and kindness, while North Americans display tenacity and strong time management skills

Cameron Beazley, Science Director at SHL notes: "Our analysis also shows the emergence of PowerSkills over time, with people scoring more highly in tenacity, kindness and time management between 2021 and 2023. Equipped with these powerful insights, organisations will better understand their workforce to build a scalable skills strategy that can unlock potential and identify untapped skills."

"Accelerating skills-based hiring and talent management programs are critical for driving growth as we enter the golden age of AI," explains Andy Nelesen, Solutions Group Leader at SHL.

"With the rise of automation and robotics, and the distributed workforce, leaders must leverage skill sets that facilitate creative and innovative thinking to remain competitive and take advantage of the massive opportunities offered by the new technology."

LinkedIn data lists fast growing jobs, functions and industries for fresh graduates

According to data provided by LinkedIn, right now in India, design, analytics and Java Script rank as the top skills for entry-level roles. The data from LinkedIn corroborates the widely held idea that flexible working is the new normal.

Companies are embracing flexibility in 2023 like never before, with solely on-site roles declining by 10% and hybrid positions surging by 60% for entry-level roles, compared to 2022. This shift provides fresh graduates with a wider range of work arrangements to choose from and pursue, says the report.

Top industries hiring in India include financial services, administrative and support services, technology, information and media, and accommodation. These sectors present promising avenues for fresh graduates with bachelor's degrees.

Even for those without a bachelor's degree, there are plenty of opportunities on the rise in the administrative and support services, accommodation, and financial services industries.

LinkedIn's data reveals a diverse range of fast-growing jobs for professionals with different educational qualifications.

For bachelor's degree holders, roles like risk consultant, investment manager and finance administrator are experiencing significant growth. MBA graduates can explore positions such as technology associate, catalogue specialist and business integration analyst.

Those without a degree can find fulfilling careers in roles like placement coordinator, user interface designer and application engineer.

Regardless of educational background, various job functions are experiencing rapid growth. For bachelor's degree holders, fields like product management, human resources, military and protective services and consulting offer ample opportunities, says the report. There are also plenty of job opportunities across functions for individuals without a bachelor's degree. In human resources, roles like placement coordinator and technical recruiter are within reach. Finance offers positions such as treasurer and finance manager while consulting presents opportunities as an industry specialist or life coach.

GENERAL

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(Rolling Advt. No (01-13/2023-24) - Teaching post(s))

Banaras Hindu University, invites ONLINE applications in the prescribed format from Indian Citizens as well as non-Indian Citizens and the Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders under section 7A in the Citizenship Act 1955 for teaching post(s) (Professor:-85), Associate Professor:-133), (Assistant Professor-89) to be filled-up through direct recruitment. Eligible candidates possessing specified qualifications and experience may **visit University website: http://www.bhu.ac.in/rac** for application form, details of qualifications & other instructions and apply accordingly. The important date is as under:

Last Date for Online submission of Application form: 31.07.2023 upto 5:00 p.m. (IST)

Further, any corrigendum /addition / deletion/ modification in the essential qualifications, etc. of the advertised posts will be displayed on website only. Applicants may visit University website http://www.bhu.ac.in/rac on regular basis.

Dated: 28.06.2023 **REGISTRAR**

KERALA UNIVERSITY OF FISHERIES AND OCEAN STUDIES (KUFOS)
Panangad P.O., Kochi-682 506, Kerala, India, Ph: 0484-2703782, 2700598,
Fax: 0484-2700337, E-mail: utypanangad@kufos.ac.in

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION

No. GA5/1692/2023 Dt: 01.07.2023

Applications are invited in the prescribed format for appointment to the following posts.

1. **REGISTRAR**
2. **FINANCE OFFICER**
3. **ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN**

Last Date For Submission of Application: 05.08.2023

Eligibility criteria, application form and other details are available in KUFOS website (**www.kufos.ac.in**) **(Sd/-)**
REGISTRAR i/c

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Technopark Phase IV, Pallipuram, Thiruvananthapuram,Kerala-695317, +91-471-2788000, Website:www.duk.ac.in/careers

INVITES APPLICATIONS

Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology (Digital University Kerala) invites applications from qualified Indian Citizens for the post of **REGISTRAR** by direct recruitment or on a deputation basis.

For more details and to apply visit https://www.duk.ac.in/careers. Sd/- Registrar

राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, कुरूक्षेत्र
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
(Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)
KURUKSHETRA-136119

No.Gen.-I/3795/2619 Dated: 28.06.2023

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION FOR FACULTY POSITIONS

National Institute of Technology Kurukshetra invites online applications from the Indian Nationals for filling up the following faculty positions through **rolling advertisement**:

Advertisement No.17/2023 : Assistant Professor Grade-I (Level-12)
Advertisement No.18/2023 : Assistant Professor Grade-II (Level-10)

There is no last date and applications will be accepted throughout the year. Applications will be processed periodically. The last date of submission of online application form for the **First Round** of **rolling advertisement** is **21.07.2023** upto **11:59 p.m.**

For further details and submission of application through online mode, please visit Institute website: **www.nitkkr.ac.in.**

Sd/-
Registrar I/c

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Send One page CV to: amccityrecruitment@gmail.com

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giving full details of age, qualification with year of passing, experience, community, salary drawn and position being held along with copies of testimonials towards proof for the same.

Applicants should enclose documentary proof for Date of Birth, Community, Educational Qualifications, Class & Percentage of Marks, Experience, Salary drawn, etc, along with the Bio-data form. Bio-data form with insufficient documentary proof will be summarily rejected.

www.tnpl.com

DIPR/748/DISPLAY/2023 "சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ बैंकिंग पर्सोनेल सिलेक्शन
(भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक, केंद्रीय वित्तीय संस्थाओं व सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंकों द्वारा स्थापित एक स्वायत्त संस्था)
INSTITUTE OF BANKING PERSONNEL SELECTION
(An autonomous body set up by Reserve Bank of India, Central Financial Institutions and Public Sector Banks)
असेसमेंट में, हम पर भरोसा रखता है भारत — In assessment, India trusts us
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COMMON RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR RECRUITMENT OF CLERKS IN PARTICIPATING BANKS (CRP CLERKS-XIII FOR VACANCIES OF 2024-25)

Authorised Website: www.ibps.in

In case of queries / complaints please log in to: http://cgrs.ibps.in/

The online examination (Preliminary and Main) for the next Common Recruitment Process for selection of personnel for Clerical cadre Posts in the Participating Banks is tentatively scheduled in August / September, 2023 & October, 2023.

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

Activity	Tentative Dates
On-line registration including Edit/ Modification of Application by candidates	**01.07.2023 to 21.07.2023**
Payment of Application Fees/ Intimation Charges (Online)	**01.07.2023 to 21.07.2023**
Download of call letters for Pre- Exam Training *	**August, 2023**
Conduct of Pre-Exam Training *	**August, 2023**
Download of call letters for Online examination – Preliminary	**August, 2023**
Online Examination – Preliminary	**August/ September, 2023**
Result of Online exam – Preliminary	**September/ October, 2023**
Download of Call letter for Online exam – Main	**September/ October, 2023**
Online Examination – Main	**October, 2023**
Provisional Allotment	**April, 2024**

*** In case it is possible and safe to hold PET**

Candidates are advised to regularly keep in touch with the authorised IBPS website www.ibps.in for details and updates.

Before registering online candidates are advised to read the detailed notification carefully and follow the instructions mentioned therein.

Mumbai
Date: 01.07.2023 **Director**

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METROS
ANNA SALAI, NANDANAM, CHENNAI - 600 035.

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION

No: CMRL / HR / CON / 08 / 2023 Dated 05-07-2023

CMRL invites applications from qualified & experienced personnel for appointment of the following posts on contract basis: -

Post Code	Name of the Post	No. of Post	Consolidated Pay (Per Month)	Min.Exp. (Yrs)	Max.Age (Yrs)
01	GM/CGM (F&A)	01	Rs. 2,25,000/- Rs. 2,30,000/-	20 - 25	Min - 45 Max - 55
02	AGM (RS)	02	Rs. 1,50,000/-	17	47
03	JGM (RS)		Rs. 1,25,000/-	15	43
04	JGM (PS&OHE)	01			
05	DGM (RS)	01	Rs. 90,000/-	13	40
06	DGM (VHT)	01			
07	Manager (RS)	03	Rs. 80,000/-	07	38
08	Manager (PS)	01			
09	Manager (ET)	01			
10	Manager (VHT)	01			
11	DM (ET)	01	Rs. 70,000/-	04	35
12	DM (PS)	01			
13	DM (RS)	03			
14	AM (RS)		Rs. 60,000/-	02	30

Note: i. Please refer the detailed employment notification published in CMRL website vide URL: **https://chennaimetrorail.org** for further information.
ii. Last date for receipt of application is **04.08.2023.**

DIPR /746 Display/ 2023 **Additional General Manager (HR).**

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம். சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

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Only shortlisted candidates will be called for the interview

An incomplete reform

Despite gains, the indirect tax regime is yet to become truly simple or efficient

India's tryst with the Goods and Services Tax (GST), launched at a special midnight Parliament session with unusual fanfare, completed six years this month. Marking the occasion, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman emphasised that the GST has moved the country towards a unified market from a situation where each State mandated different indirect tax structures and procedures, while inter-State borders were marked by bottlenecked check posts that added to logistics costs and subtracted from Indian goods' competitiveness. Introduced soon after the demonetisation shock, the GST was viewed as another disruptor for the informal economy and its initial technical, structural and procedural challenges took a while to sort out. That all businesses with annual turnover of ₹5 crore will have to generate e-invoices starting this August, and that there has been no ostensible pushback from smaller businesses over this, indicates that firms have gradually embraced the change. The Revenue Department's crackdown on fake invoicing and other techniques deployed by tax evaders may compel the few outliers to fall in line too.

Tightening compliance and the post-pandemic rebound in economic activity have helped improve revenues from the GST, which Ms. Sitharaman had suggested were underwhelming as of late 2021 when the Council set up a ministerial group to rationalise the unwieldy multiple rate structure and enhance tax inflows. This June, GST revenues crossed ₹1.6 lakh crore, only the fourth such occasion in its 72 months' existence, lifting the average collections in the first quarter of this year to nearly ₹1.7 lakh crore – a healthy 12% over last year's kitty. The recent revenue buoyancy, even if it may face a blip if consumption growth falters amid a slowing global economy, bodes well for States that were worried about their fiscal capacity after five years of assured revenues through GST compensation expired last July. For taxpayers and consumers, however, much remains to be done till the GST can be considered a Good, Simple Tax. GST Compensation cess levies have been extended till at least March 2026, instead of the initial five-year tenure, due to the transitory shock of COVID-19 lockdowns on revenues. Dispute resolution remains a pain point for industry, with GST appellate tribunals still not set up. There is no road map in sight on the rate rationalisation exercise or the inclusion of excluded items such as electricity, petroleum and real estate, without which the efficiency gains from the GST remain constricted. The GST Council needs to meet more often and turn its to-do list into a must-do list expeditiously.

Thwarting Twitter

Ruling in favour of blocking should not be the last word on social media law

It is unfortunate that the petition by Twitter, Inc. challenging the validity of the spate of blocking orders passed by the Union government was rejected by the Karnataka High Court. While success in litigation involving the government's power to restrict speech and expression on grounds permitted in Article 19(2) of the Constitution was always expected to be difficult, it is disconcerting that the court refused to countenance all arguments based on the absence of notice to users and the apparent lack of proportionality involved in large-scale suspension of accounts and posts that contained political content, especially dissenting views against the government's farm laws and the farmers' protests they sparked. There was some expectation that judicial review will temper the authorities' zeal to go in for account-level blocking rather than ordering the removal of specific tweets, links or URLs that it deemed injurious to public order or national security. What is quite disappointing is that the court both ruled that Twitter cannot espouse the cause of its users who have voiced no grievance and discouraged an intervenor from among those who suffered account-level suspension. It ruled that a foreign entity such as Twitter could not invoke the constitutional guarantee of free speech and expression on behalf of users. In the ultimate rebuff to the platform, the court imposed costs of ₹50 lakh for indulging in much-delayed "speculative litigation" despite not complying with the blocking orders for a long period and then doing so only under protest.

There is little doubt that social media content can degenerate into incitement, hate speech and hostile propaganda against the state or its instrumentalities. Laws exist in most countries to order intermediaries such as social media platforms and Internet service providers to remove any offending content, but it is a common principle that established democracies should frame policies and regulations rooted in fairness and natural justice, and not impose undue curbs on freedom of speech and expression. Section 69A of the IT Act, which sets out the power to issue blocking orders, was upheld by the Supreme Court in *Shreya Singhal* (2015) mainly on the ground that it came with adequate procedural safeguards. Twitter argued that lack of notice to the originators of content and the account users was in breach of that verdict. The court has ruled that issuing notice to users was not mandatory, especially when they may not be identifiable. Conclusions such as this, and the wide berth given to authorities to opt for account-level blocking may require reconsideration. A definitive verdict from the Supreme Court may be needed to clarify both the rights and obligations of large media companies in relation to user-generated content.

A macro view of the fiscal health of States

Pinaki Chakraborty

is an economist and a former Director of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi

In India, the States mobilise altogether more than a third of total revenue, spend 60% of combined government expenditure, and have a share in government borrowing that is around 40%. Given the size of the fiscal operation of States, an up-to-date understanding of their finances is critical in order to draw evidence-based inferences on the fiscal situation of the country – in short, an analysis of the emerging fiscal situation of States by examining key data on State finances from individual State budgets for 2023-24.

Fiscal imbalance and consolidation

As we complete the first quarter of the fiscal year 2023-24, it is becoming evident that the increase in general government deficit and debt that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic has begun to recede. There have been significant post-pandemic fiscal corrections at the Union and State levels. At the Union level, the fiscal deficit declined from 9.1% of GDP in 2020-21 to 5.9% in 2023-24 (BE). All State fiscal deficit was 4.1% of GDP in 2020-21. It declined to 3.24% of GDP in 2022-23 (RE). For the major States, for the year 2023-24 (BE), it is expected to be 2.9% of GDP.

This sharp reduction in fiscal deficit suggests that we cannot have an impressionistic view of the fiscal situation of the country, especially on the finances of States. Due to the absence of aggregation of individual State Budget data, a consolidated view of general government finances is not readily available. Every year, this data become available only after the publication of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Annual Study on State Finances. Aggregating fiscal data from individual State Budgets is rigorous and time consuming. Hence, the timeline of this publication by the RBI is during the second half of the fiscal year.

The analysis here is based on the data collated from the individual Budgets of 17 major States. These States are responsible for more than 90% of the combined spending of all States. Thus, fiscal issues emerging out of their Budgets are representative of the State finances in India. The analysis shows that these States together have managed to contain their fiscal deficits. This fiscal consolidation is significant in many ways. First, States in aggregate managed to be fiscally prudent despite a significant contraction in revenues even during the peak of COVID-19. Second, emergency provision for health spending and livelihood during the COVID-19 pandemic was not easy and required Union-State fiscal coordination. Third, States were able to reprioritise expenditure and quickly contain the fiscal deficit. Fourth, the reduction in fiscal deficit is a combination of expenditure-side adjustments, improved Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection and higher tax devolution due to buoyant central revenues. Fifth, non-GST revenues are also showing signs of recovery after the pandemic in most States.

A comprehensive revenue deficit reduction framework is essential to improve the fiscal health of States

Fiscal challenges

However, there are significant fiscal challenges that need correction in the short to medium time frame – the most critical being containing the revenue deficit of States. The reduction in fiscal deficit has not been accompanied by a corresponding reduction in revenue deficit. As in 2023-24 (BE), out of 17 major States, 13 States have deficit in the revenue account. Out of 13 States, fiscal deficits in seven States are primarily driven by revenue deficits; the States being Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal. They also have large debt to GSDP ratios.

It is true that the mere presence of a revenue deficit cannot be considered as a sign of fiscal profligacy. It is also true that pressure on revenue expenditure was high during the COVID-19 pandemic. A more detailed and careful analysis of the rise in revenue deficit of States is also necessary. However, increasing revenue deficit driving the fiscal imbalance has long-run fiscal implications and there is a need to correct this imbalance in the revenue account.

For these seven States, their specific shares of revenue deficit in fiscal deficit for 2023-24 are: Andhra Pradesh (40.9%), Haryana (50.9%), Kerala (60.4%), Punjab (70.7%), Rajasthan (39.7%), Tamil Nadu (40.8%), and West Bengal (47%). The all-State share of revenue deficit in fiscal deficit for the same year is expected to be 27%.

An assessment of successive Finance Commissions since the Twelfth Finance Commission identified three States, i.e., Kerala, Punjab and West Bengal, as fiscally stressed States. The number of States that are now fiscally stressed has increased to seven (measured in terms of the level of revenue deficit).

What does it mean for general government macroeconomic stability? A sense of this can be made when the following fiscal numbers are considered: the combined fiscal deficit of these States is 3.71% of GSDP when the all-State average for the same is 2.9%; their combined revenue deficit is 2.15 % of GSDP, when the all-State revenue deficit is 0.78%; their combined debt ratio is higher than the Finance Commission recommended debt ratio for all States for the year 2023-24. These States together contribute around 40% to India's GDP. In this context, to ensure higher State-specific growth, the fiscal stability of State finances is critical. Some of these States have also been big drivers of public capital expenditures and favoured investment destinations of private investors.

Framework of revenue deficit consolidation

On the question of revenue deficit, a long-run view is also necessary. If we examine data from the last 20 years, revenue deficit had almost disappeared from State Budgets before COVID-19. States, in aggregate, were generating revenue surpluses almost all the years during this period. However, the re-emergence of revenue deficit in recent years should take the focus back on the management of revenue deficit by creating an incentive compatible framework. The following measures can be considered.

Going forward, interest-free loans to the States by the Union Government, if continued, may be linked to a reduction in revenue deficit. This will help eliminate the possibility of a substitution of States' own capital spending and also prevent the diversion of borrowed resources to finance revenue expenditure. A defined time path for revenue deficit reduction with a credible fiscal adjustment plan would help restore fiscal balance and improve quality of expenditure.

A forward-looking performance incentive grants could also be considered for a reduction of revenue deficit. In this context, different approaches provided by earlier Finance Commissions can be considered to decide the framework of the incentive structure.

In conclusion, we need to get the focus back on the management of revenue deficit. For this, a macro view is essential.

Antibiotics with promise — a lifeline India awaits

Dr. Abdul Ghafur

is Coordinator of the Chennai Declaration on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and Consultant in Infectious Diseases, Apollo Hospital, Chennai

In the relentless battle against highly drug-resistant infections, a team of doctors recently witnessed a glimmer of hope amid the challenges they faced. Their extraordinary efforts and the life they saved highlight the critical need for action. This is not just a story; it is an earnest plea for Emergency Use Authorisation (EUA) for essential antibiotics that can make a profound difference between life and death.

In an intensive care room of a leading hospital in Hyderabad, an 18-year-old patient bravely fought not only his aggressive T-cell leukemia but also a formidable and resistant adversary – Extensively Drug Resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. This strain, known for its high resistance to multiple antibiotics, left the medical team with limited and often ineffective treatment options. Despite the administration of last-resort antibiotics, the patient's condition deteriorated rapidly. Persisting fever spikes, and the infection's assault on his lungs signalled a grave situation. The bacteria were literally eating up the patient's face. Time was running out, and his life hung in the balance.

An Indian innovation

In their quest for a lifeline, the doctors turned to a promising antibiotic, cefepime/zidebactam. Developed by Indian researchers, this antibiotic combines two active components to combat drug-resistant gram-negative pathogens, including *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. While still undergoing phase 3 trials internationally, this Indian innovation has shown remarkable potential. Under a compassionate use protocol, the necessary approvals were obtained, and the patient received cefepime/zidebactam. Miraculously, signs of clinical improvement began to surface. The patient's fever subsided, blood cultures turned negative, and the need for oxygen diminished. Slowly but steadily, his strength returned, reigniting hope.

This extraordinary case underscores the urgent importance of granting EUA for antibiotics currently in phase 3 trials or licensed from other countries. The survival of this young patient serves as a poignant reminder of the need for timely access to effective antibiotics for those most in need.

Emergency Use Authorisation for essential antibiotics, as two examples show, can make a profound difference between life and death

A dire situation

Infection specialists, intensivists, oncologists, and doctors treating severe infections in critically ill and immunocompromised patients are confronted with a grave reality. The scarcity of potent antibiotics to combat drug-resistant infections poses a direct threat to countless lives. It is distressing to witness patients succumb to infections just because the available antibiotics have lost their effectiveness due to rising resistance. The dire situation faced by doctors as they grapple with drug-resistant infections is a devastating reality that cannot be ignored. Each year, millions of lives are lost due to the inadequacy of available antibiotics in the face of these formidable pathogens. The relentless march of drug resistance has rendered once-effective treatments ineffective.

The challenges faced by doctors in combating drug-resistant infections are multifaceted. They must navigate through a shrinking arsenal of effective antibiotics, leaving them with limited choices and often resorting to suboptimal treatments that may have significant side-effects or offer little hope of a cure. The constant race against time, trying to stay one step ahead of the mutating bacteria, adds to the immense pressure and helplessness experienced by doctors on the front lines.

India, a nation that has demonstrated remarkable progress in granting EUA for COVID-19 vaccines, now stands at a critical juncture. We must extend the same level of urgency and commitment to saving the lives of patients who may otherwise succumb to infections resistant to all currently available antibiotics.

While it is true that several antibiotics are licensed within our country based on small clinical studies and of questionable benefit, we must recognise that what we truly need are powerful weapons to fight against drug-resistant infections. Antibiotics that have been thoroughly evaluated or proven to be effective are essential in the battle against superbugs.

Cefepime/zidebactam is a shining example of India's scientific prowess. Currently undergoing international phase 3 trials, this antibiotic has demonstrated its potential to save lives. By recognising the importance of cefepime/zidebactam and expediting its EUA, we not only save lives within our borders but also extend a helping hand around the globe to countless individuals in desperate need of effective treatment options.

Made by Japan

Cefiderocol, a licenced antibiotic in several countries, developed by a Japanese company, has demonstrated excellent efficacy against drug-resistant infections. It is disheartening that it remains unavailable within our country. The gravity of the cases faced by patients in India demands access to this life-saving antibiotic, and we firmly believe it should be made accessible without delay. However, we must emphasise the importance of responsible and appropriate utilisation of these medications. A collective decision by a team of experienced doctors, including infectious diseases experts should be made mandatory before initiating their use. This will ensure that these powerful antibiotics are administered to patients who will benefit the most while minimising the risk of misuse or overuse.

We implore the authorities to recognise the urgent need for action and acknowledge the immense potential of these life-saving antibiotics. By granting EUA for cefepime/zidebactam, an Indian innovation, and cefiderocol, a globally recognised antibiotic, we can strengthen our arsenal against drug-resistant infections. Their inclusion in the EUA list would not only empower doctors but also instil a renewed sense of hope and confidence among patients and their families. As a nation known for its scientific achievements, we have the opportunity to make a substantial impact on the world stage.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Parties and politics

Gone are the days when political morality and ideological fidelity mattered in Indian politics. Political opportunism has come to be seen as part of the game in politics. Ajit Pawar's switchover to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance cannot be looked at in isolation from the BJP's attempts to weaken secular and regional parties.

The BJP may have given Ajit Pawar the guarantee that the turncoats will get immunity from corruption cases, but the Shindes and the Ajit Pawars of the world cannot escape being seen as political pawns in the hands of the BJP.

G. David Milton,
Maruthancode, Tamil Nadu

Discontent and frustration in the Nationalist Congress Party have been brewing for a long time. Ajit Pawar took advantage of the situation and sensed the mood of many in the party cadre and made his political switch.

The event has exposed the greed for power in many political parties. The development in Maharashtra has also introduced a hurdle in the Opposition's quest for unity.

Ravi Mathur,
Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Paying by yuan

If the report about "Indian refiners" having begun paying for "some oil imports from Russia" in Chinese yuan (Page 1, July 4) is precise, then it is not clear yet what the stand of the Indian government is on this issue. Given the nature of its relationship with Beijing, New Delhi cannot afford to remain silent on efforts to internationalise the Chinese yuan in the name of buying Russian oil, especially if Indian refiners are involved in such deals.

With India emerging as the largest buyer of seaborne Russian oil, it is ambiguous why India is not leveraging that strong position and insisting on payment in Indian rupees in stricter terms.

One hopes the Indian government will initiate tangible steps to prevent Indian refiners from making payments in currencies which do not suit India's national interests.

A. Venkatasubramanian,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

New name

The proposal to rename Lansdowne as Jaswantgarh, after rifleman Jaswant Singh Rawat, a hero of the 1962 war, could upset locals. The town was once known as '*Kalaun Danda*', or hills surrounded by dark clouds. If the Cantonment Board wants to pay homage, it should take up the restoration of the native village of the war hero.

Sandeep Rawat
Chandigarh

White against green

Wimbledon does cast a deep spell on tennis players and spectators alike. While many players reckon Wimbledon to be their best stage, with a few of them even ending their glorious career on centre court, the Championships also have a special place in the minds of those across the world who watch it live and on TV.

Prabhu Raj R.,
Bengaluru

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Lessons from the fracas over foodgrains

The Karnataka government's decision to convert the promised Anna Bhagya scheme to a direct benefit transfer temporarily has brought into focus the limits of a State government's policy intervention on a crucial matter such as food security.

T. Ramakrishnan

A serious problem

Under Anna Bhagya, the government had envisaged the provision of five kg of free rice per person per month to 4.42 crore beneficiaries, including 45 lakh Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) cardholders, 3.58 crore Priority Household (PHH) cardholders, and 39 lakh cardholders belonging to Karnataka's own category of PHH. This was in addition to the regular entitlements to the beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). The State would have required around 2.3 lakh metric tonnes of rice every month to meet this commitment. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) had agreed on June 12 to supply the quantity under the Open Market Sale Scheme-Domestic (OMSS-D) for July, but the Centre had a different plan. Anna Bhagya, which was to be launched on July 1, ran into a serious problem on June 13 when the Union Food Ministry discontinued the sale of rice and wheat under OMSS-D to all State governments, with exceptions. Karnataka had planned to utilise OMSS-D to implement the scheme, which was one of the five pre-poll guarantees of the Congress party.

Though the OMSS is meant for the sale of surplus stocks of wheat and rice at pre-determined prices through e-auctions in the open market, to improve the supply of foodgrains and control the price line, States have generally been allowed to purchase the surplus stock without e-auctions. The OMSS is now limited to accommodate small and marginal buyers and traders. The quantity that a bidder can purchase in a single bid ranges from 10-100 metric tonnes at present. The Centre's decision took several States, especially rice-deficit ones, by surprise, since OMSS is one of the routes that they use to supplement their allocation. The suddenness of the decision especially hit Karnataka, which had begun preparations to launch the scheme in anticipation of the FCI's help. Had there been an effective communication system in place between the Union Food and Public Distribution Department and the FCI, a statutory body under the Central government, the whole controversy could have been avoided. While suggestions were made for providing ragi and jowar, both grown in parts of Karnataka, to partially meet the proposed demand, this too would have posed supply constraints, as the quantity required was substantial.

Of course, the Centre has its own compulsions in restricting the availability of foodgrains under OMSS-D. The quarterly stock position of rice and wheat in the Central pool, as on April 1, 2023, was the lowest in the last three years, despite being much higher than the level prescribed in the foodgrains stocking norms. Uncertainty regarding the south-west monsoon and the possible impact of an adverse monsoon on the production of foodgrains are factors that the authorities must have considered before taking the decision to restrict supply. All this only justifies the need for more broad-based consultation. Besides, whether it is feasible to rely on private traders to bring down the prices for those not covered under the NFSA is a moot question.

There is one difference between the present and the immediate past: the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), implemented in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, is no longer in force. This scheme had provided five kg of free foodgrains per person per month from the central pool to AAY and PHH cardholders all over India.

The episode has delivered a key message to States that they must have their own mechanisms in place before launching any scheme. Even if there had been no row between the Central and Karnataka governments, the sustainability of Anna Bhagya was questionable as supply only through OMSS-D would not have been sufficient. On average, about 16 lakh tonnes were drawn in total by all the players in the country from 2018-19 to 2022-23. The highest quantity of about 24.6 lakh tonnes was drawn in 2020-21, the first year of COVID-19. But Karnataka would have needed about 27.5 lakh tonnes annually, about 1.5 lakh tonnes higher than the State's allocation under the NFSA for 2023-24. Thus, the States must consider the macro picture to ascertain the practicality of their new schemes. The Centre indeed has reason to be worried if every other State promises a scheme of its own in the food sector, based on the expectation that the Central government and the FCI will come to its rescue without any regard for the emerging reality. If States do not exercise discipline and such a trend goes unchecked, the country would not have comfortable stock, let alone surplus. Also, the problem was not only of availability, but also cost. The FCI had reportedly agreed to supply grains to Karnataka at ₹36.6 per kg. Assuming that the required quantity was obtained at this cost, the monthly outgo would have been about ₹840 crore.

Not an instrument of politics

There is no crisis as of now on the foodgrains front. But the present situation should serve as a lesson to all political players to exercise moderation while making electoral promises, especially on matters concerning food security. Also, they should stop viewing foodgrains as an instrument of politics and begin to take an objective appraisal of programmes such as PMGKAY and Anna Bhagya.

Political parties should exercise moderation while making electoral promises, especially on matters concerning food security

The Kerala BJP faces a massive roadblock

The UCC debate and Manipur violence have affected its outreach to minorities

STATE OF PLAY

G. Anand

The ethnic violence in Manipur and the Centre's purported move to draft a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) seem to have affected the BJP's carefully choreographed outreach to the minorities in Kerala.

Across the country, there is conflict and debate over the UCC and angst about the situation in Manipur. But nowhere is it as intense as in Kerala, given the State's unique demographics. Muslims, who constitute 28.6% of the State's population, and Christians, who constitute 18.4%, are both crucial voting blocs.

Christian households in Central and North Kerala have seen their incomes plummet due to low prices of cash crops. The failure of successive Congress and CPI(M) governments to guarantee a good price for rubber and spices has left the community disillusioned. The BJP has been attempting to convince Christians that the Modi government is a better bet for their economic and social prospects than the Congress or the CPI(M). It has also spoken to the Church's irrational fears about the conspiratorial "love and narcotic jihad".

The BJP is under no delusion that Christians would flock to the party in overwhelming numbers at one stroke. However, it believes that even a perceived shift in Christian support could throw the Congress into a state of disarray and leave the the CPI (M) dismayed ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. The party's bid to make inroads into the community received a big boost a few months ago when the influential Syro-Malabar Catholic Church said that it would support the BJP if the Central government took steps to improve the condition of rubber cultivators and hike the minimum support price for rubber to ₹300.

But that bonhomie has not lasted for long. When violence broke out in Manipur, Joseph Pamplany, the archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, likened the situation to the 2002 Gujarat riots. He said the "savagery" overwhelmingly targeted Christians, and faulted the BJP-led government in Manipur for "covertly sanctioning" violence against the community. He also railed against the Centre's determination to implement the UCC. He called for solidarity against the legislation "calibrated to crush diversity and personal laws".

The UCC debate has signalled a possibly tectonic shift in Muslim politics in North Kerala. Opposing Sunni groups led by Kanthapuram A.P. Aboobacker Musliyar, who is perceived to be inclined towards the Left, and Sayed Jifri Muthukkoya Thangal, who is said to support the Indian Union Muslim League, closed ranks in the face of the UCC threat, signalling unity in minority voting in the general elections. However, the jury is out on whether the CPI(M)-led ruling front or the Congress-led Opposition will benefit the most from the supposed consolidation of Muslim votes.

The BJP is struggling to appeal to the voters in Kerala and urge them to trust its intentions. Union Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan said the UCC would not infringe on the rights guaranteed to minorities under relevant articles of the Constitution. He said the CPI(M) and Congress appeared afraid to debate the UCC and that Article 44 of the Constitution envisaged it. He urged Muslims and Christians not to fall for the CPI(M) and Congress's scaremongering.

The party's Kerala 'Prabhari' (in-charge) Prakash Javadekar said the CPI(M), which batted for a UCC, has taken a page out of vote bank politics and reversed course. He said the UCC remained in force in Goa and Puducherry and that the Muslims in those areas had "no complaints". He claimed that a uniform and secular set of laws was imperative for ensuring gender justice. The UCC was in tune with the Constitution's founding principles, Mr. Javadekar asserted, but "unfortunately, the IUML opposed the UCC".

The CPI(M) and Congress seem to have picked up on this resentment and fear. They have signalled that they plan to point to the Manipur violence and the UCC proposal as reasons why voters should reject the BJP in 2024.

All this means that the BJP has to develop a new way to navigate these challenges. Though unemployment in Kerala is high and the CPI(M) government is facing corruption charges as well as questions about its control of varsities, it is the UCC and Manipur which seem to dominate the discourse among the minority communities in Kerala. The BJP would be keen to change the narrative.

Karnataka, OMSS' top beneficiary, hit hard by discontinuation

Karnataka bought over 50% of the rice sold through OMSS in five out of the eight years between FY16 and FY23

DATA POINT

Jasmin Nihalani

Ever since the Congress-led Karnataka government came to power, it has been struggling to meet one of its major pre-poll promises – the provision of five kg of rice to Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya card holders. This would have been in addition to the five kg of rice that is provided under the National Food Security Act. To fulfill its promise, the State government required more rice than usual, which led to a slugfest with the BJP-led Centre.

Until now, a major source of rice for Karnataka was the Centre's Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS). Through OMSS, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) had been selling surplus grains. On June 13, the Centre discontinued the sale of grains through OMSS to States to "control inflation". This put Karnataka, the biggest beneficiary of OMSS, in a fix, forcing it to give cash to beneficiaries instead of the additional rice promised under the Anna Bhagya scheme.

However, the FCI's supply of rice for ethanol blending has continued to increase. Ethanol blending is a process wherein ethanol is mixed with petrol to reduce the amount of petroleum used. This leads to a decrease in India's dependence on fuel imports. The amount of rice supplied by the FCI for ethanol blending in 2022-23 was nearly six times more than the quantity of rice that all the States bought through the OMSS scheme.

Under the OMSS, the FCI sells excess rice and wheat to bulk buyers, traders, and States to moderate market prices and to enhance supply during lean seasons. Over 6,800 thousand metric tonnes of rice were sold through the OMSS in the past eight years. Karnataka bought 30% of it – the highest among all States. **Chart 1** shows that Karnataka bought over 50% of the rice sold through OMSS in five out of the eight years between FY16 and FY23. The Centre's discontinuation of the OMSS to States threatens not just the Anna Bhagya scheme, but also the entitlements of over 39 lakh State priority household cardholders who don't come under the NFSA.

Several States that run an expanded public distribution system (over and above NFSA norms) depend on OMSS to meet the additional requirement. **Chart 2** shows the beneficiaries covered under the NFSA and those under State-run schemes.

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah tweeted that the FCI had responded to the State's request for rice via a letter dated June 12, at the rate of ₹3,400 per quintal, just a day before the OMSS scheme was discontinued. In fact, past trends suggest that States have been the largest buyers of rice sold under the OMSS (**Chart 5**).

The Centre has maintained that the scheme was restricted to rein in inflation. "The Government of India is already providing foodgrains for 80 crore people. Additionally, 60 crore consumers need to be taken care of. OMSS would be carried out in the interest of those 60 crore, so that inflation remains under control," said Ashok K.K. Meena, Chairman and Managing Director of the FCI, explaining the Centre's decision to restrict the supply of foodgrains through-OMSS (Domestic) to 100 metric tonnes. **Chart 3** shows that retail inflation of rice has been in double digits for the past eight months.

As noted earlier, the supply of rice from the FCI for ethanol blending has not been affected by this decision. As per the FCI's 2023 policy, the reserve price of rice for ethanol production was ₹20/kg, much lower than the ₹34/kg at which it sells to States under OMSS. In the past two years, the rice supplied for ethanol blending has seen a steep rise (**Chart 4**). From 5,500 MT in April 2021, the supply of rice zoomed to over 2,50,000 MT in May 2023.

Sparring over rice

The data has been sourced from the Food Corporation of India and the Food and Civil Supplies Department of States

Chart 1: The chart shows the six States that bought the highest share of rice under the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS)

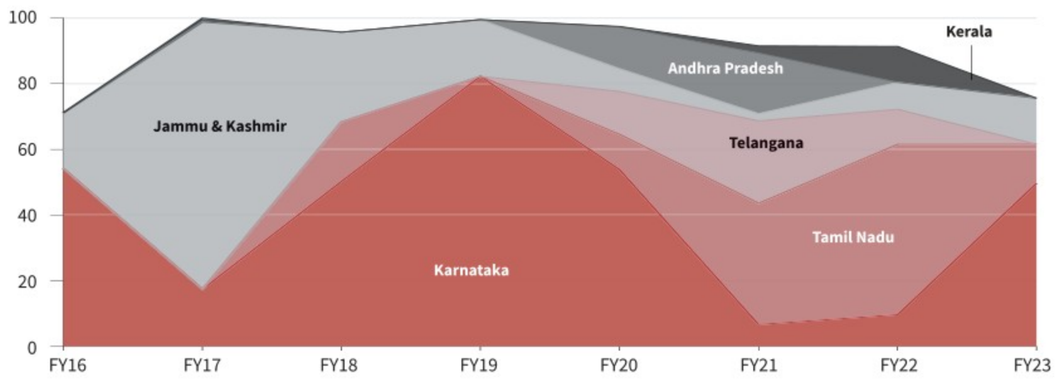


Chart 2: The chart shows the number of beneficiaries under the NFSA (●) and State-run schemes (●) in crore

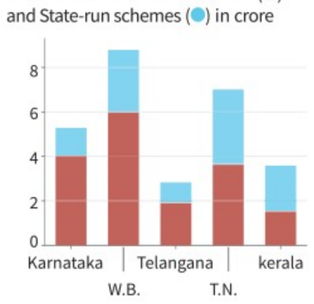


Chart 3: The chart shows retail inflation and wholesale inflation of rice (in %)

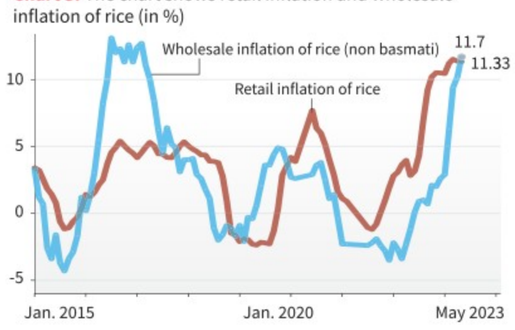


Chart 4: The chart shows the quantity of rice supplied (in metric tonnes) from the FCI for the purpose of ethanol blending

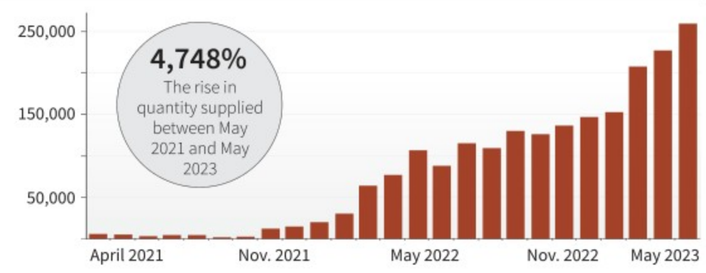
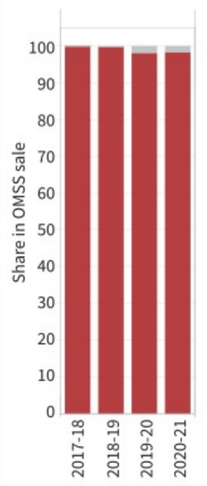


Chart 5: The chart shows the share of bulk consumers (●) and States (●) who bought rice through OMSS



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FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 5, 1973

"Oldest confrontation in the world": Bhutto

Rawalpindi, July 4: President Bhutto, conceding that India and Pakistan had made little progress towards achieving peace in the past year, said to-day that his Government would strive anew to end confrontation in the sub-continent. "It is an extremely difficult and a complex task because perhaps this confrontation is the oldest of the world," he said at a U.S. Embassy reception marking the 197th anniversary of American Independence. "It is the confrontation of 1,000 years, and I doubt if you will be able to find another confrontation so old, so deep-rooted as the one of the sub-continent." Mr. Bhutto's extemporaneous remarks, made during a toast to the people, the Government and the President of the United States, came a day after India and Pakistan agreed to hold fresh bilateral talks soon to implement further the peace pact signed last July by Mr. Bhutto and the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, in Simla. "Not much has happened since we held that conference in Simla. But this does not mean we have not endeavoured to make progress," Mr. Bhutto said. "I can assure you on this auspicious occassion, on this happy day, that my Government and my people will make every endeavour to achieve an honourable peace and in doing this we hope to carry the people with us. We hope to carry the people with us inside the National Assembly," he said. "We hope to have the co-operation of all the parties in the National Assembly. We hope to have their co-operation outside the National Assembly."

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 5, 1923

Age of consent

Simla, July 3: In the Assembly on Tuesday, Dr. Gour moved for the introduction of a Bill to amend the Penal Code so as to raise the Age of Consent from 12 to 14. He explained that a girl in India did not ordinarily attain puberty until the 13th or 14th year and even on attaining puberty she was too young and immature for life. If the Bill is introduced it would be on grounds of public morality and private justice to the individuals directly affected. The Bill was almost exactly the same as the one which was allowed to be introduced by Mr. Sohan Lal in the Delhi session but a reference thereof to a select committee rejected. Now Dr. Gour raised the same issue.

From Page One

SCO at summit calls for multipolar world order

In his statement, Pakistan PM Shehbaz Sharif said that terrorism should not be "used as a cudgel for diplomatic point scoring".

"Instead of cherry picking for narrow political gains, terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including State terrorism, must be condemned... Similarly, religious minorities should never be demonised in the pursuit of domestic political agendas," he added, in a veiled reference to Pakistan's allegations against the Indian government on minority rights.

Meanwhile, Chinese President Xi Jinping marked the 10-year anniversary of the BRI and mentioned his new Global Security Initiative (GSI), calling for "encouraging political settlement of international and regional hotspots, so as to forge a solid security shield in our region". He called on SCO members "to make foreign policies independently" and to be "highly vigilant against external attempts to foment a new Cold War or camp-based confrontation in our region". Chinese officials have previously blamed the U.S. for "interference" and a "Cold War mentality".

Quoting Rabindranath Tagore in his speech, Mr. Xi said, "The sea of danger, doubt and denial around man's little island of certainty challenges him to dare the unknown."

The Delhi Declaration listed a number of global challenges, including new and emerging conflicts, turbulence in the markets, supply chain instability, climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic.

"[SCO] member States confirm their commitment to formation of a more representative, democratic, just and multipolar world order based on the universally recognized principles of international law, multilateralism, equal, joint, indivisible, comprehensive and sustainable security, cultural and civilizational diversity, mutually beneficial and equal cooperation of states with a central coordinating role of the UN," it said.
(with inputs from Ananth Krishnan)

India lodges protest over pro-Khalistan posters

However, MEA did not summon any American official in response.

The Indian National Congress (INC) has condemned the incident and urged the Indian government to "take all steps necessary to protect Indian diplomatic missions and personnel".

The incident regarding the controversial posters came less than a month after External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar cautioned Canada about the risk of Khalistani extremism.

Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly emphasised that the campaign against Indian diplomats does not speak for everyone in Canada.

UBT: Speaker delaying disqualification process

"The Speaker is the appropriate authority to adjudicate petitions for disqualification under the Tenth Schedule (anti-defection law)... The Speaker embodies propriety and impartiality and that it was therefore inappropriate to express distrust in the office of the Speaker," it had observed.

However, Mr. Prabhu said three months have passed since the judgment and Mr. Narwekar has not called for even a single hearing despite repeated representations to do so.

"It is settled law that the Speaker, while performing its functions under the Tenth Schedule, acts as a judicial tribunal, and is required to act in a fair and unbiased manner. Any unreasonable delay on the part of the Speaker in deciding the petitions for disqualification contributes to and perpetuates the constitutional sin of defection committed by the delinquent members," the petition said.

"His inaction is allowing MLAs who are liable to be disqualified to continue in Assembly," it added.

SC slams ED plea to take over Senthilbalaji case

In the Madras High Court on Tuesday, Justice J. Nisha Banu of the Division Bench held the petition to be maintainable, declared the Minister's detention to be illegal, and consequently ordered his release, but Justice D. Bharatha Chakravarthy disagreed with the conclusions as well as reasons given by the senior judge on the Bench. He dismissed the petition and held it to be not maintainable.

Explaining the reasons for her conclusions, Justice Banu wrote that the relevant date for deciding whether a person's detention was legal or not would be the date when the petition related to his detention was heard by the court. In the present case, the Minister was in the custody of ED when the petition was heard on June 22 and such custody was illegal, she said.

In his dissenting verdict, Justice Chakravarthy cited a slew of Supreme Court verdicts and stated that a HCP could be entertained after the passing of a judicial remand order only in cases of absolute illegality, or lack of jurisdiction, or wholesale disregard to fundamental rights.

No such exceptional circumstance had arisen in the present case, he said.

Bunker-clearing exercise to begin in Manipur today

Kuki groups say they will oppose the move as they are using the structures to defend their villages; in fresh violence, one killed during attempt to loot weapons from police camp in Thoubal

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

A day after Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that bunkers set up in the hills and valley areas will be pulled down by security forces, a defence source said that all such structures will be removed in the next 10 days. The exercise will begin on Wednesday.

Mr. Singh said on Monday that the Army will lead the operations and will be joined by the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF).

Kuki groups said they will oppose any such attempt. On Tuesday, the representatives of Indigenous Tribal Leaders Forum (ITLF) met GOC 3 Corps Lt. General H.S. Sahi in Churachandpur and told him that any move by the Army to destroy the bunkers will be faced with stiff resistance.

The rudimentary bunkers, varying from sandbags to tin boards, were set up by members of the Kuki and Meitei communities in areas where settlements of the two communities are adjacent to each other.

After the ethnic violence erupted in the State on May 3, buffer zones were created between the valley where the Meitei people live, and in the hills, where the Kuki people reside, to stop clashes. Central security forces and the Army are deployed in these zones.

Manipur CM N. Biren Singh chairs a meeting with State Ministers and MLAs to discuss security matters in Imphal on Monday. PTI

Muan Tombing, general secretary of ITLF, said, "We are using these bunkers to defend our villages. We told the GOC that any attempt to remove the duty posts will be met with stiff resistance."

More than 4,000 weapons and lakhs of ammunition have been looted from police camps in Manipur since May 3. While close to 1,150 weapons have been returned, many sophisticated weapons are still with the public. A government official said insurgent groups who have entered from Myanmar are using the stolen weapons to attack the civilians.

"The bunkers will be destroyed but disarming the civilians is also a priority. Despite repeated requests, the weapons have not been returned," the official said.

On Monday, at a press conference, the Chief Minister asserted that there is information on people with possession of illegal arms in both hill and valley areas. He said that a mass frisking would be started.

Violence breaks out

One person was killed on Tuesday morning when security forces opened fire at a mob that attempted to loot weapons from a police camp in Thoubal district.

"One rioter was killed while a few others were injured during a failed attempt at the India Reserve Battalion at Khangabok in Thoubal", the Army said.

"Mob had laid roadblocks to prevent movement of reinforcements. However, additional columns of Assam Rifles and Rapid Action Force were able to induct, and the situation was brought under control by synergised efforts of security forces," the Army added.

In the process, "an Assam Rifles (AR) person sustained bullet injury in the leg while miscreants also torched one vehicle of AR," a source said.

In the hill district of Churachandpur, the house of Seilen Haokip, the spokesperson of the Kuki National Organisation (KNO), was torched by unknown persons.

The KNO and United People's Front (UPF), the umbrella group of the 24 Kuki insurgent groups in a Suspension of Operations pact with the government, announced on July 2 that the 60-day road blockade at Kangpokpi on National Highway 2 will be removed with immediate effect to ensure uninterrupted supply of essential commodities in the State.

Colonel Atul Kumar, Commander, 25 Border Road Task Force (BRTF), met Governor Anusuiya Uikey on Tuesday and apprised her regarding the progress of fencing along the Myanmar border.

A tweet by the Raj Bhavan said that the Governor advised the Commander "to get the work expedited mainly to contain the illegal activities in the border areas as well as sneaking of insurgents and anti-social elements into the State from neighbouring countries".

BJP picks new chiefs in four States, triggers talk of shuffle in govt.

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

J.P. Nadda

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president J.P. Nadda on Tuesday announced changes in the leadership of four State units of the party, triggering what is being seen as the start of a big reshuffle in the party's organisation and the Union Council of Ministers.

Babulal Marandi was appointed president in Jharkhand, Sunil Jakhar in Punjab, former general secretary D. Purandareswari in Andhra Pradesh and Union minister G. Kishen Reddy in Telangana.

Through the day, several Union Ministers, including Earth Sciences Minister Kiren Rijiju, his successor in the Law Ministry Arjun Ram Meghwal and Minister of State for Health S.P. Singh Baghel, made a beeline for Mr. Nadda's office, at the BJP's national headquarters in New Delhi, adding to speculation about a large-scale change in both party and government.

A senior office-bearer in the BJP confirmed to *The Hindu* that at least four more State units – Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Kerala – will see changes, with certain Ministers being moved to party charges.

The appointments also signal the direction the party wants to take in these respective States. In Jharkhand, the appointment of Mr. Marandi points to the BJP wanting to project the tribal leadership in its fold.

In Punjab, Sunil Jhakhar, who belongs to the Hindu-Jat community, is seen as someone who can appeal to communities across the board, especially in the rural belt.

In the two Telugu States, the appointments are interesting. Mr. Reddy being made party chief is a signal that the BJP wants to cement various factions of the party for the Assembly polls and the appointment of a former Minister in the Bharat Rashtra Samithi government in Telangana, Etala Rajender, as the party's election management chief is to mollify him, and the Mudiraju community to which he belongs.

In Andhra Pradesh, D. Purandareshwari, who does not have a harmonious relationship with Telugu Desam Party chief N. Chandrababu Naidu (the two are related), signals that while the BJP wants an alliance with Mr. Naidu, bargaining over seat sharing will not be on his terms, with the BJP sticking its oar in.

UCC will bind Bharat more effectively, says V-P at IIT-Guwahati

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A Uniform Civil Code (UCC) will "bind Bharat" more effectively, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Tuesday, warning that any further delay in its implementation would be "corrosive for our values". He was addressing the 25th convocation of IIT-Guwahati.

The Vice-President pointed out that the UCC had been recommended by the authors of the Indian Constitution under the directive principles of state policy, which was termed by the founding fathers as "fundamental in governance of the country". It is the duty of the State to apply these principles, he added. He also noted that the panchayat system, the third tier of governance, had also evolved based on the directive principles, as was the right to education for which laws have now been framed.

"Any further delay in implementation of Uniform Civil Code will be corrosive for our values. The underlying sublimity has to be appreciated and understood. This will bind Bharat, its nationalism more effectively; this was the thought process of the founding fathers of the Constitution. Friends, just reflect and think about it, there can be no premise or rationale to impede or delay the implementation of directive principles when we are in *Amrit kaal*," he added.

Impractical to bring tribals under UCC: Arvind Netam

The Hindu Bureau
RAIPUR

Former Union Minister Arvind Netam on Tuesday cautioned the Centre against rushing into the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC).

He asserted that bringing in tribal communities with diverse and rooted customs within the ambit of the UCC was an impractical suggestion.

"The UCC aims to enact a common law related to birth, marriage and property rights. The tribal community is governed by its customary laws in matters of birth, divorce, inheritance... and this is its identity which is different from the other castes, communities and religions," he said.

Customs of tribal populace will be respected, says Union Minister on UCC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

S.P. Singh Baghel

Minister of State for Health and former Minister of State for Law S.P. Singh Baghel on Tuesday said the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had the utmost respect for tribal communities and nothing would be done to hurt their religious and social customs.

He was speaking to the media on remarks made by his party colleague and Rajya Sabha member Sushil Kumar Modi, who as chairperson of the Standing Committee on Law and Justice, reportedly said that the tribal population in the northeast and other parts of the country must be kept out of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC).

According to reports, Mr. Modi on Monday during a panel meeting on UCC, had said that the northeastern States with large tribal populations and which came under provisions of Article 371 should be exempted from the law.

This was an important remark to make after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's impassioned appeal for a UCC in a public meeting in Madhya Pradesh last week.

Mr. Baghel said the "BJP chose to nominate a tribal woman as the President of India – the highest post in the land. It also has the largest number of tribal MLAs, MPs and Ministers. The customs of the northeast are respected by the party and we will not hurt any religious or social customs."

Mr. Baghel's publicly expressed views indicate that the views of various tribal forums in the northeast and its own NDA ally, the National People's Party, seem to be impinging on the move towards a Uniform Civil Code.

Traditional way of living of tribals has to be protected: Jharkhand Governor

Abhinay Lakshman
RANCHI

Jharkhand Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan on Tuesday said tribal communities should be kept out of the ambit of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), and they should be allowed to "live in their own ways". Jharkhand, a State under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution, has one of the highest tribal populations in the country.

"The traditional way of living of the tribals has to be protected because we have to understand the social environment in which tribal people live," he told *The Hindu*.

The Governor said that "based on his experiences", while the time may have come for certain societies such as Muslims to accept the UCC, "as far as the tribals are concerned, I am saying we have to allow them to live in their own ways".

This comes even as more than a dozen Adivasi welfare organisations in Jharkhand are mobilising to hold rallies, protests and demonstrations opposing the UCC.

The 22nd Law Commission is in the middle of receiving a fresh round of public opinions on the possibility of implementing a UCC and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Law and Justice has

C.P. Radhakrishnan

already begun discussing the issue. BJP MP Sushil Modi, who heads the parliamentary panel, has said that tribal people should be kept out of the UCC.

Mr. Radhakrishnan, who as Governor has special powers to keep any law of Parliament in abeyance in the interest of the Scheduled Tribes, said there were special legislation in the State, such as the Chhota Nagpur Tenancy Act, and the Santhal Pargana Tenancy Act, which recognise and protect tribal customary practices.

"Adivasis' interest and their social environment and their living environment is important. We have to take Adivasis also into confidence so that their basic rights are protected in their traditional ways. And that will be taken care of," Mr. Radhakrishnan said, expressing confidence that the Union government would consider these aspects before bringing in the UCC.

Tina Ambani appears before ED in FEMA case

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

A day after Indian Industrialist Anil Ambani appeared before the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) office, his wife Tina Ambani appeared before the central agency on Tuesday, in connection with an investigation linked to the alleged contravention of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, an official said. The case is related to alleged undisclosed assets belonging to them abroad.

APPEAL

I am Yaashmitha, aged 5 years suffering from Neuroblastoma. I have to undergo Chemotherapy at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. I am seeking your support in bringing a lasting change to my life. I urgently need Rs. 10,00,000/- for my treatment. Your timely contribution will bring a hope and transformation to me. Donations sent by Ch/D.D favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged**. The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & Google Pay (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No. 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **Women's Welfare Syndicate** is exempted under 80G IT (**Please do not mention patient name on the cheque**).
All correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/ 7338978027. E-mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com** Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org
Yaashmitha

Jharkhand HC grants relief to Rahul in Modi surname case

The Hindu Bureau
RANCHI

The Jharkhand High Court on Tuesday granted relief to former Congress MP Rahul Gandhi in a defamation case filed by a Ranchi-based advocate in connection with the Modi surname remark. Justice S. K. Dwivedi exempted Mr. Gandhi from personal appearance in the Ranchi MP/MLA court and also ordered that no coercive action should be taken against him.

The Congress leader had moved the High Court against the Ranchi court order directing him to be physically present in court.

"The next hearing in the case is on August 16 and the petitioner has been given two weeks to file reply in the matter," Mr. Gandhi's advocate, Kaushik Sarkhel, said.

The petitioner, Pradeep Modi, had filed a ₹20-crore defamation case against the Congress leader.

In a similar case in March, a court in Surat held Mr. Gandhi guilty for the remark and sentenced him to two years in prison.

Went with 'majority view' on BJP tie-up: Praful Patel

He plays down reports that he will join the Union Cabinet; says NCP MLAs had written to party supremo Sharad Pawar during the Sena split and had wanted to join the Shinde-BJP government

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Praful Patel, once considered the closest aide of party founder Sharad Pawar, said on Tuesday that he decided to go with the "majority view" within the NCP.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Patel said a majority of the NCP lawmakers and leaders had favoured a tie-up with the BJP a year ago.

"When the Shiv Sena-Eknath Shinde [Chief Minister] split happened last year, nearly all NCP MLAs had written a letter to party president Sharad Pawar to say that we should join the government. So, it has been brewing since then and it's not something that happened yesterday," said the leader who served as Minister for Heavy Industries and Civil Aviation during the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) regime.

Commenting on the tit-for-tat action against leaders of opposite camps in the fight to establish themselves as the "real" NCP, Mr. Patel said such things were bound to happen before things settled down. "There are appropriate fora like the Assembly Speaker and the Election Commission to decide these things. Let's leave it at that," he said.

Way ahead: Deputy CM Ajit Pawar with Praful Patel and other leaders during the inauguration of a party office. EMMANUAL YOGINI

The leader of the breakaway NCP faction played down reports that he would be inducted as a Cabinet Minister at the Centre, and said that the focus had been Maharashtra so far. "There has been no talk on this at all," he said.

Corruption cases

Responding to the Opposition's charge that all the NCP leaders, including him, had joined hands with the BJP to avoid the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in various corruption cases, he said, "First of all, I don't have any case against me. There is no ECIR (Enforcement Case Information Report) against me, so the charge is wrong".

"Also, what kind of argument is this that when one is in Opposition then the cases are false but when one changes political affiliation, the same case becomes genuine," he asked.

When pointed out that he had attended the Patna meet of Opposition leaders just 10 days ago, he said, "Yes, I did attend the meeting but all I can say is that it was not at all inspiring".

On Opposition meet

Mr. Patel said the Opposition parties did not have much in common other than the aim to defeat the BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha election and no one was willing to accept the leadership of the other.

"In 2004, there were 64 Left MPs in addition to the Congress numbers and that gave stability to the the UPA. In 2009, the Congress got more than 200 seats on their own. That situation doesn't exist today," he added.

Delhi-based think tank Centre for Policy Research loses tax exemption status

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Income Tax Department has cancelled the tax exemption status of the Centre for Policy Research (CPR), a leading public policy research institution. The status was revoked on June 30.

The office of the Delhi-based think tank was surveyed by the department on September 7, 2022.

On February 27, the Union Home Ministry suspended the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) registration of the CPR for 180 days. The registration made the CPR eligible to receive foreign funds.

The I-T Department issued a show-cause notice to the CPR in December 2022 asking why its tax exemption registration under Section 12A of the Income Tax Act should not be cancelled in view of several irregularities. The department alleged that the association had made payments to persons who had not filed their personal Income Tax Returns and raised questions over books published by the CPR being commercial in nature.

Close scrutiny: I-T officials leaving after conducting a search on the premises of the Centre for Policy Research in September 2022. PTI

Hit hard

The association denied the allegations and filed exhaustive replies with the department, a functionary said, adding that they would seek all forms of recourse available.

The functionary added that since the FCRA registration had been suspended, the CPR had to significantly cut down its staff strength by more than half. Before the raids, there were around 200 employees on the CPR's payroll. Foreign donations comprised 75% of the total grants the charitable association received.

The CPR had earlier said that in 2022 it published 39 policy briefs, 31 peer-reviewed journal articles, 10 working papers, four book chapters and one book, which is the core purpose of education and research.

It said that in the spirit of its charitable status, the CPR does not claim any ownership rights on the books or seek to draw any financial benefits, and the purpose is to contribute knowledge to society at large.

AAP may skip Opposition meet over Congress stance on Delhi Ordinance

Sobhana K. Nair
Nikhil M Babu
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is likely to skip the Opposition meeting scheduled for July 17 and 18 in Bengaluru, sources said.

It is over the Congress refusing to comply with the condition laid out by the AAP to publicly declare support for its campaign against the Ordinance amending the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991 that curtails State government's powers over bureaucracy.

Senior AAP leaders told *The Hindu* that the party stands by its June 23 position. "We are yet to have a meeting to take a final call on whether to attend the next Opposition meeting or not. But without the Congress publicly supporting us on the Ordinance, the chances of the party attending the next meeting are bleak," a senior AAP leader said.

'Publicly denounce'

Just minutes after Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and other AAP leaders skipped the joint press briefing, the party released an official statement, saying it would be difficult for them to participate in future meetings.

"Many parties urged the Congress to publicly denounce the black Ordinance. However, the Congress refused to do so. Until the Congress publicly denounces the black Ordinance and declares that all 31 of its RS MPs will oppose the Ordinance in the Rajya Sabha, it will be difficult for AAP to participate in future meetings of like-minded parties where the Congress is a participant," the statement said.

Parliament session

The Parliament session begins on July 20, two days after the Opposition meet in Bengaluru.

"When the Bill comes to the floor of the House, we will vote against it. Our party president Mallikarjun Kharge told Mr. Kejriwal in front of the top leadership of 13 parties during the Patna meet. They can't dictate terms to us," a senior Congress leader said.

Non-Congress Opposition leaders though are unfazed by the AAP's likely absence, calling it a minor speed-breaker in a long distance marathon. The confusion, they said, will be sorted the day the Bill comes to Parliament.

"In the run up to 2024 general elections, all is well with the Opposition. The Bengaluru summit will be followed by more summits. We are taking one step at a time," Trinamool Congress Rajya Sabha parliamentary party leader Derek O'Brien said.

Congress slams BJP govt. over price rise

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Stepping up its attack on the Narendra Modi government over the rising prices of vegetables, the Congress on Tuesday described Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the '*Mehengaai* Man' under whose watch essential food items have become unaffordable.

The All India Mahila Congress organised a flash protest outside the BJP headquarters to demand relief for people from the rising inflation in prices of essential food items.

Women leaders also accused the police of manhandling.

"Delhi Police under Home Minister Amit Shah does not miss any opportunity to break rules, conventions and procedures laid out in the police manual to intimidate and harass protesters raising their voice against the Modi government. They have broken all protocols by sending male officers to manhandle the protesting Mahila Congress workers," Congress leader Jairam Ramesh tweeted.

Party spokesperson Supriya Shrinate gift wrapped one kilogram of tomatoes, garlic, ginger and green chillies in a basket, claimed that it cost nearly ₹1,100 and could be good gifting option in the wedding season.

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED
(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WING) NEW POWER HOUSE,
INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003, PHONE: (0291) 2742223, FAX: (0291) 2746539

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

E-Procurement Tender is invited for supply of P.G. Clamp For Panther, Dog, Weasel, Rabbit and T-Clamp For Panther Conductor under TN-1908 (UBN JVV2324GLOB00201) and 11 KV CT PT Sets of ratio 100/5 Amp., 75/5 Amp, 50/5 Amp., 30/5 Amp and 7.5/5 Amp. under TN-1918 (UBN JVV2324GLOB00202).

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Bid security, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at **http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl** and also at **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in**.

Raj.Samwad/C/23/5001 SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)

बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045

INDIRA GANDHI MEDICAL COLLEGE & RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(A Government of Puducherry Institution)
Vazhudavour Road, Kathirkamam, Puducherry - 605 009.
Ph: 0413-2277545, 0413-2277289 Website: www.igmcri.edu.in

FILLING UP OF VACANCIES IN THE POSTS OF PROFESSOR / ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR / ASSISTANT PROFESSOR ON REGULAR BASIS AND SENIOR RESIDENT ON REGULAR SCALE AND ON TENURE BASIS

The details regarding eligibility criteria such as age limit, educational qualification, experience, the scale of pay and other conditions etc., can be viewed on the officical website **www.igmcri.edu.in**. The prescribed application form can be downloaded from the website.

The last date for receipt of the application form is fixed for **01.08.2023 at 05.00 p.m**. The shortlisted candidates only will be called for an interview .

No.183(7)/IGMC&RI/Acad/Estt.II/AP/Recr./2023
No.172/DIP/AD(Press)/2023-24 Director i/c

AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY, JODHPUR
Telephone: 0291 2570711 (O), Website: www.aujodhpur.ac.in
E-mail: recruitmentaujodhpur@gmail.com, JODHPUR 342304, Rajasthan, India

Date: 27th June, 2023

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Applications on the prescribed forms are invited for direct recruitment on 28 posts of Associate Professor (vide Advt. No.AUJ/2023/03 dt. 27.06.2023), 41 posts of Assistant Professor, 5 posts of Assistant Librarian (vide Advt. No.AUJ/2023/04 dt. 27.06.2023), 04 posts of Senior Scientist & Head (vide Advt. No.AUJ/2023/05 dt 27.06.2023) and 16 posts of Subject Matter Specialist (vide Advt. No.AUJ/2023/06 dt 27.06.2023) in the Agriculture University, Jodhpur. The advertisement of all the above posts and all details including application forms, score cards, general conditions and instructions etc. can be seen and downloaded from the website of Agriculture University, Jodhpur i.e. **www.aujodhpur.ac.in**. The application form and score card duly completed in all respects along with necessary documents and requisite fee (payable to the Comptroller, Agriculture University, Jodhpur) should reach to the office of the Registrar, Agriculture University, Jodhpur- 342304, Rajasthan on or before **21st August, 2023 upto 5.00 PM.**

Raj.Samwad/C/23/5012 REGISTRAR

कार्यालय जिला कलक्टर धौलपुर (राजस्थान)

क्रमांक-लेखा/2023-24/108 दिनांक 28.06.2023

निविदा सूचना

जिले में राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत आने वाले पंजीकृत परिवारों को मुख्यमन्त्री निःशुल्क अनपूर्णा फूड पैकेट वितरण किये जाने हेतु इच्छुक आपूर्तिकर्ता फर्मों से ई-बिड आमंत्रित की जाती है। बिड की शर्तों को **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** अथवा **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर देखा जाकर दिनांक 01.07.2023 10.30AM से बिड को डाउनलोड किया जाकर दिनांक 13.07.2023 06.00 PM अपलोड किया जा सकता है।

UBN No. CDH2324GLRC00004
NIB No. CDH2324A0004

अनिल कुमार अग्रवाल
जिला कलक्टर

DIPR/C/9585/2023

INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION
भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
अंतरिक्ष विभाग DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION
सतीश धवान अंतरिक्ष केंद्र शार SATISH DHAWAN SPACE CENTRE SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा, तिरुपतिजिला (आं.प्र.) SRIHARIKOTA-524 124, TIRUPATI DT. (A.P)

विज्ञापन सं. एसडीएससी शार/भर्ती/03/2023 दिनांक 05.07.2023
ADVERTISEMENT No. SDSC SHAR/RMT/03/2023 dated 05.07.2023

अनुसंधान सहायक–I (आर ए –I) के एक अनारक्षितपद को ₹ 47000/- प्रतिमाह के स्थाई मानदेय पर भरने के लिए ऑनलाइन आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं / Online Applications are invited to fill up One Position(Un-reserved) of Research Associate - I (RA-I) with fixed emoluments of ₹ 47000/- per month.

योग्यता/Qualification:
अनिवार्य/Essential:
मुख्य विषय के तौर पर मौसम विज्ञान या समतुल्य विषय के साथ मौसम विज्ञान / वायुमंडलीय विज्ञान / समुद्र विज्ञान / भौतिकी / अनुप्रयुक्त भौतिकी में पीएच.डी/Ph.D in Meteorology /Atmospheric Sciences/ Oceanography/ Physics/ Applied Physics with Meteorology or equivalent subjects as the main subject

(या/OR)

कम से कम 3 वर्ष का शोध अनुभव तथा वायुमंडलीय /समुद्र /जलवायु विज्ञान से संबंधित विज्ञान उद्धरण सूचकांक (एससीआई) जर्नल में प्रकाशित कम से कम एक शोधपत्र के साथ वायुमंडलीय विज्ञान / महासागर विज्ञानमें एमई / एम.टेक / ME/M.Tech in Atmospheric Science/Ocean sciences with at least 3 years of research experience with at least one research paper in Science Citation Index (SCI) journal related to Atmospheric/ Oceanic/ Climate Sciences

वांछनीय/Desirable:
कंप्यूटर प्रोग्रामिंग, लीनक्स इत्यादि तथा वायुमंडलीय /समुद्र /जलवायु विज्ञान से संबंधित पीयर रिव्यू जर्नल में प्रकाशित लेखों का अच्छा ज्ञान। पीयर रिव्यू लेखों द्वारा सहयोग/सहायता प्राप्त मौसम एवं जलवायु प्रतिरूपण / निगरानी तकनीक तथा डेटा विश्लेषण में कौशल का प्रदर्शन किया हो।/ Well acquainted in computer programming, Linux etc and publications in peer reviewed journals related to atmospheric/oceanic/climate sciences. Demonstrated skill in weather and climate modeling/ observational techniques and data analysis etc supported by peer reviewed publications

कविस्तृत विवरण के लिए https://www.shar.gov.in/ (अथवा) https://apps.shar.gov.inदेखें। आवेदन प्राप्त करने अंतिम तिथि : 25.07.2023/ For further details, please visit https://www.shar.gov.in/ (or)https://apps.shar.gov.in.Last Date for Receipt of Applications: 25.07.2023

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
UTHIRAMERUR SPECIAL GRADE TOWN PANCHAYAT
KANCHEEPURAM DISTRICT

R.C. NO. 283/2021/A1 | GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT RE INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFD) | Dated: 26.06.2023.

Sealed tenders are invited by the undersigned on or before 3.00p.m on 21.07.2023 from the registered contractors. Received Tenders will be opened by the Executive Officer, Uthiramerur Town Panchayat or his authorized person in presence of the tender at 3.30 p.m on the same day. Tender Schedules with conditions can be obtained from the Town Panchayat Office on payment of cost on or before 20.07.2023 @ 3.00 pm. Bid document available (at free of cost) **https://tntenders.gov.in** **www.tenders.tn.gov.in/publish.**

Further details may be obtained at Town Panchayat Office, Uthiramerur on Office hours on all working days.

Sl.No	Name of work	Nos.	Estimate Amount (Rs.in Crores)
	AMRUT 2.0 - 2022-2023		
1	IMPROVEMENT OF WATER SUPPLY SCHEME TO UTHIRAMERUR TOWN PANCHAYAT	1 No	20.90

Executive Officer
Uthiramerur Town Panchayat, Kancheepuram District

DIPR / 3393/ Tender / 2023 "சொற்களை கூர்மை வாய்ந்த அரசுத்துறை, சாதனை படைத்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

INDIAN BANK
Corporate Office: 254-260, Avvai Shanmugam Salai, Royapettah, Chennai - 600 014 **www.indianbank.in**

NOTICE FOR TENDER

Indian Bank, Corporate Office float request for proposal for selection of Business Development Correspondent / Business Facilitator (BDC/BF) for expanding credit to SHGs/JLGs for Indian Bank in Karnataka state. Detailed tender documents are available in the Tenders section of Bank's website: **www.indianbank.in** and e-procurement portal **https://www.tenderwizard.com/indianbank**

Any Addendum / Corrigendum including modification in the tender documents shall be notified only on the Bank's website: **www.indianbank.in** and e-procurement portal **https://www.tenderwizard.com/indianbank**

Last date for submission of Tenders is 02.08.2023 upto 3.00 PM.

Place: Chennai
Date: 05.07.2023 Assistant General Manager (RBD)

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER,
SALAPADA IRRIGATION CIRCLE, SALAPADA, KEONJHAR
E-mail- acesicsalapada@gmail.com

Bid Identification No- ACESIC-02/2022-23 : 'e' - PROCUREMENT NOTICE

1	Nature of the Works	:	Periphery Development Work
2	No of works	:	02 (Two)
3	Value of Works (Excluding GST)	:	Rs.163.43 to 164.78 Lakh
5	Period of Completion	:	9 (Nine) Calendar Months
6	Class of Contractors	:	A & B
7	Procurement Officer	:	Additional Chief Engineer, Salapada Irrigation Circle, Salapada, Keonjhar - 758020
9	Availability of tender for On-line bidding	:	From 11.00 hrs of 04.07.2023 to 20.07.2023 up to 15.00 hrs
10	Last date and time of seeking tender clarification	:	10.07.2023 up to 15.00 hrs
11	Pre Bid Meeting		On Dated 15.07.2023 at 11.30 Hrs in the O/o the Additional Chief Engineer, Salapada Irrigation Circle, Salapada, Keonjhar - 758020.
10	Date and time of Opening of Technical Bid	:	21.07.2023 at 11.00 hrs

Further details conditions can be seen from the Govt. web site **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

Additional Chief Engineer,
Salapada Irrigation Circle, Salapada, Keonjhar-758020

A-284 OIPR-32468/11/0003/2324

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
4th Floor, Felicity Square Building, Opp. AG Office, Statue, Thiruvananthapuram - 695001, +91 - 0471 - 4010374

CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027
E- TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited.

Sl. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	Bid Submission Last Date
1	Selection of service provider for the work of "Selection of Service Provider for the implementation of Digitalization of data base for Property tax.	2023_SCTLT_585607_1	20.07.2023 02:30 PM
2	Selection of System Integrator for Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning (SITC) and maintenance of eHealth project by providing Laptops and other peripherals.	2023_SCTLT_585509_1	20.07.2023 05:00 PM
3	Selection of System Integrator for Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning (SITC) and maintenance of eHealth project by providing Network active & passive components, Structured Cabling, UPS wiring and supply of UPS.	2023_SCTLT_585611_1	20.07.2023 05:00 PM

Date and Time of opening Price Bid: To be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by Email. All the documents and details are available on the E procurement website. Bids are only accepted online on the website **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in**

(Sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र./ SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE शुद्धिपत्र / CORRIGENDUM-I

ई–निविदा सूचना सं./e- Tender Notice No :CMG/C/X 238716 तिथि/ Date. 30.06.2023

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, **"एसएसएलवी प्रमोचन परिसर (एसएलसी), तिरुचेंदुर एवं सदनकुलम तालुक, तूतीकोरिन जिले में विसंदूषण संयंत्र (ईधन), विसंदूषण संयंत्र (आक्सीकारक), प्रमोचन सेवा भवन एवं बहिःस्राव उपचार संयंत्र के लिए भवनों का निर्माण (सिविल एवं पीएच कार्य)" (₹315 लाख)** हेतु मद दर ई–निविदाएं आमंत्रित हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज **12.07.2023** को **14:30** बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट **www.isro.gov.in** या **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** देखें।

On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for **"Construction of buildings for Decontamination Plant (Fuel), Decontamination Plant (Oxidizer), Launch Service Building and Effluent Treatment Plant at SSLV Launch complex, (SLC), Tiruchendur & Sathankulam Taluk, Tuticorin District (Civil & PH works)" (₹315 Lakhs)**; Tender documents can be downloaded up to **12.07.2023**, **14:30** hrs. Interested tenderer may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.

हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR

M BG-BGE

INBRIEF

NIA attaches Amritsar property in narco-terror case

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has attached the house of two brothers in Amritsar district of Punjab in connection with a "Pakistan-sponsored" narco-terror case, the agency said on Tuesday. The residential property, which has been attached under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, belongs to Bikramjit Singh aka Bikram Singh and Maninder Singh. They were earlier arrested by the NIA. The agency has so far filed four chargesheets against 13 accused in the case which was registered on May 8, 2020. The case pertains to the allegation that a narco-terror module was smuggling large quantities of drugs into India from Pakistan, in the garb of exporting rock salt.

SC seeks govt. response on failure to fill NHRC vacancies

The Supreme Court on Tuesday decided to examine a plea accusing a "lethargic" Union government of not filling up vacancies in the National Human Rights Commission. A Bench headed by CJI D.Y. Chandrachud issued notice on a plea by petitioner-in-person Radhakanta Tripathy. The Bench recorded the petitioner's submission that there were three vacancies in the commission, namely, that of two judicial members and a woman member. "The existing seats are stated to have fallen vacant on September 11, 2021, January 4, 2023, and April 4, 2022, respectively," it observed. The court is scheduled to hear the case after three weeks.

NCST chief Harsh Chouhan was 'forced to resign': Cong.

Harsh Chouhan was "forced to resign" as Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) eight months before his tenure was supposed to end, the Congress said on Tuesday. Jairam Ramesh said that Mr. Chouhan "paid the price for boldly confronting the Environment and Forests Ministry" over what he termed the "dilution of forest laws" in the last two years. Mr. Chouhan, a social worker who has been active in campaigns for Adivasis, was appointed as Chairperson in February 2021. However, he sent his resignation to the President last month, and this has now been accepted.

Court to hear plea on making SC status 'religion neutral'

The Supreme Court will hear a petition to stop using religious identity as a criterion to afford or deny communities a place within the Scheduled Caste (SC) bracket. A Bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul ordered the petition filed by Kudanthai Arasan to be tagged along with the pending petition seeking SC reservations for Dalit converts to Christianity and Islam. The plea contended that the denial of SC status for Dalit converts was sourced from the belief that both these faiths were "historically foreign religions and do not recognise caste system as in Hinduism". The Centre had earlier the SC status for Dalit converts to Christianity and Islam.

Delhi court seeks minor wrestler's response

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A court here has sought a response from a minor wrestler on the Delhi Police's closure report filed in the alleged sexual harassment case filed by her father against outgoing Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief and BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

The court of Additional Sessions Judge Chhavi Kapoor has directed the complainant – the girl's father – to explain why the closure report filed by the police should not be accepted. The next date of hearing is August 1.

In the closure report, the police had cited the statements given by the minor to a magistrate under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. It has been said that the victim had not supported the allegations made earlier in the FIR. Based on her fresh statement, a case under POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) Act cannot be made out against Brij Bhushan, so the case should be closed, the Delhi Police said.

SC defers swearing-in of Justice Kumar as DERC chief

The court issued notice to the Centre in a challenge by the Delhi Government against the appointment and posted matter to July 11; S-G accuses AAP govt. of 'playing with a retired judge'

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday stepped in to defer the swearing-in of a former Allahabad High Court judge, Justice Umesh Kumar, as Chairperson of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC).

A Bench led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud issued notice to the Centre in a challenge by the Delhi government against the appointment of Justice Kumar. The court listed the case for July 11.

The court sought the assistance of the Attorney-General, observing that the case raised questions about the validity of Section 45D of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023, promulgated on May 19. The provision gave the Lieutenant-Governor the final say in appointments to commissions.

The Ordinance came into effect just days after a Constitution Bench, in a May 11 judgment, gave the elected government of Delhi control over civil services.

> The Delhi government will pay for the Commissions. It will be responsible for their conduct... but it has no role in the appointments
>
> **ABHISHEK SINGHVI**
> Delhi govt. lawyer

On Tuesday, the Arvind Kejriwal government, represented by senior advocate A.M. Singhvi and Shadan Farasat, alleged that the Centre's appointment of Justice Umesh Kumar was an attempt to stop the AAP regime's "most popular" scheme of supplying free electricity to the poorest of the poor in the national capital.

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, retorted that the accusation was only a ploy to attract media coverage.

The law officer accused the Delhi Government of "playing with a retired judge". He said the ceremony for administration of oath of office to Justice Kumar was fixed on two separate occasions, on June 26 and July 3.

However, Justice Kumar could not take the oath as the Delhi Power Minister was "travelling" the first time and "fell ill" on the second occasion.

In response, Mr. Singhvi recounted how retired Madhya Pradesh High Court judge, Justice Rajeev Shrivastava, who was the Chief Minister's nominee for DERC Chairperson, had waited months for the L-G to clear his file. Justice Shrivastava had finally withdrawn his assent after there was no movement in spite of a Supreme Court order on May 19 to appoint the DERC chairperson in two weeks.

Mr. Singhvi said the Central notification appointing Justice Kumar was issued the very same day the Delhi government named Justice Sangeet Lodha (retired) as its second choice as DERC chairperson.

"Through the ordinance, they [the Centre and L-G] have reduced me to an agency unit. I, the elected government of Delhi, will pay for the Commissions and statutory bodies. I will be responsible for their conduct to the electorate... but I have no role in the appointments made to them," Mr. Singhvi argued.

"Who wrote to Justice Umesh Kumar about the post?" the Bench asked the Centre and L-G's side.

"The L-G," they said. "That is the problem here," the CJI remarked.

Modi govt. has compromised rail safety, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Narendra Modi government has "thoroughly compromised" basic railway safety, the Congress said on Tuesday after a high-level inquiry concluded that "wrong signalling" was the reason for the three-way train collision in Odisha. The inquiry by the Commissioner of Railway Safety flagged "lapses at multiple levels" in the signal and telecommunication (S&T) department and said the tragedy could have been averted if past red flags were reported.

"In the craze for inaugurating Vande Bharat trains, fixating on bullet trains and tinkering with specialised cadres, the Modi government has thoroughly compromised on basic issues of railway safety," Congress leader Jairam Ramesh tweeted.

"Clearly, the Balasore tragedy was human error at the root of which is management failure, including the political leadership. What will it take to bring the railways back on track?" Mr. Ramesh added.

Govt. to help combat child trafficking in border areas, set up rehabilitation homes

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

These homes will provide shelter, food, clothing, counselling and other daily needs for the victims

The Centre has decided to help build infrastructure in border areas to combat child trafficking and help in rehabilitation and protection of victims.

As part of this initiative, the Women and Child Development Ministry will provide financial assistance to the States and Union Territories (U.T.) along the border areas to set up homes for the protection and rehabilitation of trafficking victims from neighbouring countries.

These homes would provide shelter, food, clothing, counselling, primary health facilities and other daily needs for the trafficking victims, most of whom are children and minors, officials in the Ministry said.

According to the officials, India is a source as well as a destination country for human trafficking. The main source countries are Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar from where women and girls are trafficked in the lure of a better life, jobs and good living conditions on this side.

A majority of those trafficked are minor girls or young women who after their arrival in India are sold and forced into commercial sex work. These women often reach major cities such as Mumbai, Delhi and Hyderabad from where they are taken out of the country mainly to West Asia and South East Asia, the officials said.

Thus, the States bordering these countries need to be more vigilant and have adequate facilities to provide relief and rehabilitation, and in order to aid this, the Ministry would provide the financial assistance. Till now, the Women and Child Development Ministry has been providing financial assistance to all States and Union Territories under the Nirbhaya Fund to set up and strengthen Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTU) in every district of the country. Funding has also been provided for setting up these units in border guarding forces such as the Border Security Force (BSF) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). As of now, 788 AHTUs are functional.

The trafficking victims in the border areas will also be produced before the child welfare committees to declare them fit for availing sponsorship as per the Mission Vatsalya Scheme guidelines and accordingly, the States and U.T.s will be requested to do the needful, he said.

Mission *Vatsalya* is the central scheme focused on the protection and welfare of children.

Centre-State tussle over OMSS may take spotlight at Food Ministers' meet

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are likely to object to the restriction imposed on purchase through OMSS. NAGARA GOPAL

Issues such as the restriction on the States in buying foodgrains through the Open Market Sales Scheme (OMSS), the fortified rice programme and the strategy for procurement of coarse grains and millets during the upcoming kharif marketing season are likely to be discussed at the national conference of Food Ministers of the States and Union Territories on Wednesday.

The States such as Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are likely to reiterate their opposition to the restriction imposed on purchase through the OMSS.

The one-day meeting of the State Food Ministers with Union Food Minister Piyush Goyal, Ministers of States Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti and Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Union Food Secretary Sanjeev Chopra and other senior officials will also see discussions on the effective implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana.

"This significant gathering aims to discuss and strategise on crucial agendas concerning procurement of coarse grain/millets, grading of procurement centres, effective implementation of PMGKAY, implementation of SMART-PDS, the launch of sugar-ethanol portal and nine-year achievement booklet by Mr. Goyal, rice fortification and various other important topics," the Food Ministry said in a statement.

A Tamil Nadu government functionary said the issue of OMSS restrictions will be raised in the meeting.

A Kerala official said issues in implementing the National Food Security Act will be taken up at the meeting.

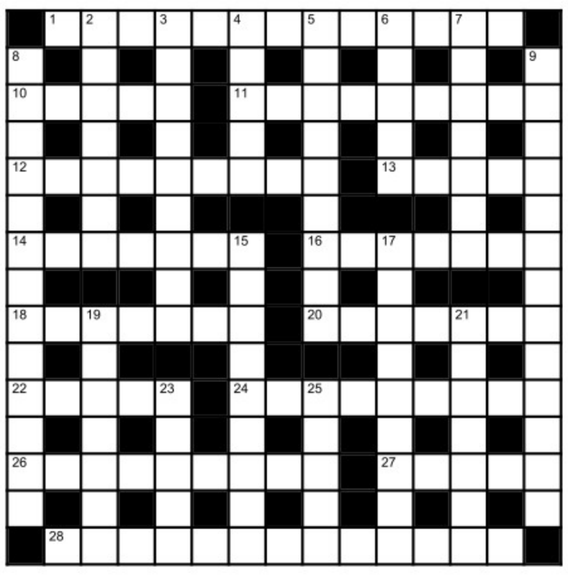
The official said the State had demanded the reinstatement of wheat allocation, which was allegedly reduced recently.

TH CROSSWORD + 13909

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 A national armed struggle, aiming for prosperity and success (8,5)
10 Framework without head or tail, gets you space at the very top (5)
11 Late hour entertainment in flight, perhaps close to one (9)
12 Cold and hot and a lot in between - that's unfair criticism (5,4)
13 Not even once - treat eight of them (5)
14 Indent electronic surveillance cameras, top ones come down (7)
16 Capacitance and resistance of a wire wound all around, they work at high altitudes (7)
18 End of Labour! Drunk Tories paint the town red (7)
20 Key to pick nice naked seducer (7)
22 Question answer review - he had a story to narrate (5)
24 Love to revisit some of the Qatar-Omani ties (9)
26 Blue sea with green fields at the bottom - is that a desire? (9)
27 Sparkle left in drink, time to follow (5)
28 The teammates and I play simultaneously (2,3,4,4)

Down

2 John has it, about time to get a pair of gloves (7)
3 He gets entire shot - accepting limited choice that comes up (9)
4 It's easy to move slowly by cycle (5)
5 Bargain for one I get at random (9)
6 Beer without head returned as old (5)
7 Flyer's on a peak, gets through (7)
8 Children's book under fancy brocade found at the checkout counter (3,4,6)
9 Orders to execute work, that draws near (5,8)
15 Star goes off without eats, that is being sloppy (9)
17 He got hurt badly so reconsidered (9)
19 Observation on where the sniper keeps the target (7)
21 Magnetism is hidden (7)
23 Fish where the bird sits (5)
25 Fool! Get up in the morning to have tea (5)

SUDOKU

	5		8					1
		2			1			
3	8		4	9				2
	3			5			1	
			9		4			
	4			7			3	
8				1	9		7	3
			3			9		
2					5		4	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

No.SS5848 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

K	I	N	A	S	E	B	I	L
I		Y		P		W		C
C	O	N	S	U	L	A	T	E
K		O		R		S		B
S	T	R	E	W	T	H		E
H		S		H		I		R
A	N	K	L	E		N	A	G
W				E		G		L
	O	M	E	L	E	T	T	E
E		A				O		T
F	A	C	T	I	O	N		T
F		A		O		P		U
E	L	B	O	W		O	N	C
T		R		A		S		E
E	T	E	R	N	I	T	Y	

L	L	Y	C	A	N			
	U		O		O			
E		N	O	W	I	N		
G		L		E				
I	T	I	S	T				
	C		S					
S	A	K	I					
E			I					
L	A	T	I	N				
L		E		T				
T	O	O	T	S	I	E		
	T		T		R			
O	N	C	E	A	G	A	I	N
S		E		P		T		E
R	E	S	E	N	T			

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

5	2	7	9	4	6	1	8	3
9	4	8	3	1	5	7	2	6
1	6	3	8	2	7	4	9	5
6	8	9	5	3	1	2	4	7
3	5	1	2	7	4	8	6	9
2	7	4	6	9	8	5	3	1
4	9	2	7	5	3	6	1	8
8	1	5	4	6	9	3	7	2
7	3	6	1	8	2	9	5	4

FAITH

The sacred animal

The Uttara Parva of the Bhavishya Purana says that in every part of the cow's body dwells a deva, elaborated Velukkudi Krishnan in a discourse. The sun and moon are in its eyes. Goddess Sarasvathi is in its tongue. The Maruts are in its teeth. The Aswini twins are in its ears. Rudra and Brahma are in the tips of its horns. Gandharvas and apsaras are in its hump. The four oceans are in its stomach. The Ganges is in the portion covered by its tail. Bhudevi and Lakshmi reside in its behind. In its nerves are elephants. In its bones are hills. In its four feet are the four Purusharthas. The Pranava is in its grunt. The eleven Rudras are in its neck. Lord Vishnu resides in its entire body.

Thus, everything that is sacred is in the cow's body. When a cow can no longer yield milk, we turn it out or sell it. Cows must be cared for even after they have stopped yielding milk. Even if we insist on looking at them only from a utilitarian point of view, they can still be considered useful for their dung and urine, which are useful in agriculture.A simple question to ask ourselves is: "Would we turn out a member of the family, because he is old or weak?" A cow is as much a member of our family. So, we must care for cows which are old or sick.

Each state in India has its own variety of cows. Thus we have Bargur, Manapparai, Umbalacheri in Tamil Nadu; Ongole in Andhra; Vechur in Kerala; Amritamahal, Hallikar in Karnataka; Kankrej and the high yielding Gir in Gujarat; Deoni, Dangi in Maharashtra; Badri in Uttarakhand; Gumusari in Orissa; Tharparkar and Sahival in Rajasthan; Malvi in Madhya Pradesh; and Gangatiri in Uttar Pradesh to name a few indigenous varieties of cattle.

PHNOM PENH

Cambodia bans members of Meta Board over Facebook row with PM

REUTERS

Cambodia blacklisted 22 people on the Oversight Board for Facebook's parent company Meta after they recommended premier Hun Sen's account be suspended over a video in which he threatened to beat up his rivals. The incident is the latest in a series of events involving the Cambodian leader and Facebook. AFP

MOSCOW

Russian reporter hospitalised after being badly beaten in Chechnya

AFP

An award-winning Russian investigative journalist was in hospital after being badly beaten on Tuesday by armed assailants during a trip to Chechnya. "Elena Milashina's fingers have been broken and she is sometimes losing consciousness. She has bruises all over her body," the Memorial human rights group said on social media. AFP

CAIRO

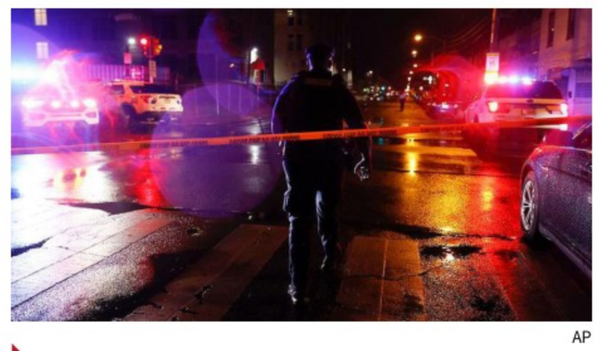
For the first time in a decade, Egypt, Turkey appoint envoys

REUTERS

Egypt and Turkey said Tuesday they had appointed Ambassadors to each others' countries for the first time in a decade, in a sign of warming ties. The two Foreign Ministries said the move "aims at the re-normalisation of relations between the two countries and reflects the mutual will to develop bilateral relations". AFP

PHILADELPHIA

Five killed, 2 boys wounded in U.S., as gunman opens fire on streets



AP

A heavily armed gunman in a bulletproof vest opened fire on the streets of Philadelphia on Monday night, seemingly at random, killing five persons and wounding two boys before surrendering, the police said. No connection was immediately known between the victims and the shooter. AP

Toll in Israel's Jenin attack rises to 10; Palestinian wounds eight in Tel Aviv

A Hamas militant drove his car into a bus stop in Tel Aviv and began stabbing people; he was shot and killed by a civilian; in the Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank, Israel's military bulldozers tore through alleys while thousands fled to safety

Associated Press
JENIN

A Hamas militant drove his car into a crowded bus stop in Tel Aviv on Tuesday and began stabbing people, wounding eight in an attack praised by Palestinian militant groups as a response to Israel's ongoing military operation in the occupied West Bank.

Police chief Kobi Shabtai told reporters that an armed civilian shot and killed the assailant.

The attack came as Israeli troops pressed ahead with their hunt for Palestinian militants and weapons in the Jenin refugee camp, after military bulldozers tore through alleys and thousands of residents fled to safety. The two-day Palestinian death toll rose to 10.

Taking stock: Israeli police work at the scene of a ramming attack in Tel Aviv on Tuesday. REUTERS

The large-scale raid, which began on Monday, was one of the most intense military operations in the occupied West Bank in nearly two decades and comes amid a more than a year-long spike in violence. More than 140 Palestinians have been killed this year in the West Bank, and Palestinian attacks targeting Israelis have killed at least 26 people.

The raid bore hallmarks of Israeli military tactics during the second Palestinian uprising in the early 2000s and came as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faces growing pressure from his political allies for a tough response to recent attacks on Israeli settlers.

But the current violence is also different from the intense years of what was known as the second intifada, a period that claimed thousands of lives. It's more limited in scope.

The Israeli Army said that fewer than 10 targets remained in its Jenin operation but gave no indication how long it would take to complete. Israel's Channel 12 TV station quoted military officials as saying they expected to wrap up the offensive within 24 hours.

Islamist militant group Hamas praised the Tel Aviv attacker as a "martyr fighter" and said the attack was "heroic and revenge for the military operation in Jenin." It was not immediately clear if the attacker was dispatched by the group or acted on his own. Islamic Jihad, a militant group with a large presence in Jenin, also praised the assault.

Stoltenberg to remain at NATO helm for another year

Associated Press
BRUSSELS

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg will stay in office for another year, the 31-nation military alliance decided on Tuesday.

Mr. Stoltenberg said in a tweet that he is "honoured by NATO Allies' decision to extend my term as Secretary General until 1 October 2024."

"The transatlantic bond between Europe and North America has ensured our freedom and security for nearly 75 years, and in a more dangerous world, our Alliance is more important than ever," he said.

Mr. Stoltenberg, a former Norwegian Prime Minister, has been NATO's top civilian official since 2014. His term had been due to expire last year but was extended then to keep a steady hand at the helm after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

Jens Stoltenberg

U.S. President Joe Biden and his NATO counterparts had been due to name a successor when they meet in Vilnius, Lithuania, on July 11-12. But the world's biggest security organisation makes decisions by consensus, and no agreement could be found on a new candidate.

"With his steady leadership, experience, and judgement, Secretary General Stoltenberg has brought our Alliance through the most significant challenges in European security since World War II," Mr. Biden said in a statement.

Mr. Stoltenberg's fellow countryman, Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre, welcomed the announcement saying that it was "good, important and reassuring."

Most NATO countries had been keen to name a woman to the top post, and Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen was thought to be a favorite after a meeting with Mr. Biden last month.

It's the fourth time Mr. Stoltenberg has had his mandate extended. He's the second-longest serving NATO Secretary-General.

Sudan fighter-jet shot down as battles rage

Agence France-Presse
WAD MADANI

Heavy fighting raged on Tuesday across the Sudanese capital where witnesses reported a fighter-jet being shot down and artillery and machine gun fire rocking several neighbourhoods.

"We saw pilots jumping with parachutes as the plane plunged to the ground," said a witness in northern Khartoum.

A source from the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces said the RSF had shot down the Sudanese Armed Forces jet.

The RSF said they "arrested the pilot after he landed with a parachute", in a statement that also accused the SAF of "heinous massacres" in greater Khartoum.

Peak of violence has passed, says Macron

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

French President Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday met with hundreds of French officials to begin exploring the "deeper reasons" for the country's plunge into riots after the killing of a teenager at a traffic stop.

"Is it a permanent return to calm? I will be cautious, but the peak that we've seen in previous days has passed," Mr. Macron said, according to a participant. "We all want a lasting, republican order," he said. "That's the absolute priority."

Overnight violence in French cities had halved in 24 hours, the Interior Ministry said, with 72 people arrested overnight nationwide.

Women's salons to shut in Afghanistan

Agence France-Presse
KABUL

Afghanistan's Taliban authorities have ordered beauty parlours across the country to shut within a month, the Vice Ministry confirmed on Tuesday, the latest curb to squeeze women out of public life.

The order will force the closure of thousands of businesses run by women – often the only source of income for households – and outlaw one of the few remaining opportunities for them to socialise away from home.

"I think it would have been good if women did not exist at all in this society," said the manager of a Kabul parlour who asked not to be identified.

"I am saying this now: I wish I did not exist. I wish we were not born in Afghanistan, or were not from Afghanistan."

Since seizing power in August 2021, the Taliban government has barred girls and women from high schools and universities, banned them from parks, funfairs and gyms, and ordered them to cover up in public.

Women have also mostly been barred from working for the United Nations or NGOs.

No reason given

Mohammad Sadeq Akif Muhajir, spokesman for the Ministry for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice, would not say why the order had been given. "Once they are closed then we will share the reason with the media," he told AFP.

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED
Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for Procurement of Hardware and Bus Bar material for 400/220KV (Assorted Type) as per requirements of specification (Nigam Design) (BN-9018002309 & UBN: VPN2324GLOB00761) and Procurement of C&R panels for 315 MVA, 400/220/33 kV Auto power transformer at 400 kV GSS Chittorgarh (BN-9018002308 & UBN: VPN2324GLOB00760) are invited from interested bidders upto 06:00 PM on 17.07.2023 & 25.07.2023 respectively.

Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in**) of the state; and **http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpnl** departmental website.

Superintending Engineer
Raj.Samwad/C/23/4998 RRVPN/TR-5895/2023 (Contracts-I), Jaipur

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : WRD/KWA-CE(SR)/TR/7902/2022_26_4_3/1, **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)-2022-23 -** CWSS to 13 Panchayaths based on Malankara Reservoir -Thidanadu Panchayath-(1) Supply & laying of DI transmission main from the Vettipparambu (2)Construction of OHSR & GLSR (3) Distribution networks in the Thidanadu Panchayath and Providing FHTCs (4) Pumpsets, (5) Road Restoration etc., **EMD :** Rs. 5,00,000/-, **Tender Fee :** Rs. 16540+(2978)GST, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 26-07-2023 03:00 pm. **Phone :** 0481-2562745.
Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
KWA-JB-GL-6-609-2023-24 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kottayam

KERALA HEALTH RESEARCH & WELFARE SOCIETY
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Registered Office: General Hospital Campus, Red Cross Road, Thiruvananthapuram-695035. Ph: 0471-2300377.

No. A3/2183/2023/KHRWS Date: 23.06.2023

e-TENDER NOTICE

Tenders are invited from renowned and experienced distributor, manufacturers to supply CT Scanner 16 Slice (Model B). Tender details are available from KHRWS Head Office, **www.khrws.kerala.gov.in** and **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Petronet LNG Limited

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
FOR SELECTION OF CONTRACTOR FOR ARC FOR PAINTING OF JETTY PILES FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS AT PETRONET LNG LIMITED, DAHEJ

Interested parties are requested to visit our website **www.petronetlng.in** for detailed eligibility criteria along with other necessary details for issuance of Tender document.

Note: PLL reserves the right not to issue the tender document and/or accept or reject any or all the bids at any stage of the process and/or modify the process without assigning any reasons on its sole discretion. No separate notification shall be issued in press. Bidders are requested to visit the website regularly to keep themselves updated.

Manager (C&P)
PETRONET LNG LIMITED
GIDC Industrial Estate, Plot No. 7/A, Dahej, Taluka-Vagra,
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THE HINDU Young world
TREASURE IN YOUR HANDS
THE HINDU GROUP

World Snake Day

Special Issue dated 14th July 2023

Books about snakes
Career as a herpetologist
Snakes from mythology
Snake characters from fiction
FAQs
History of anti-snake venom
Fun facts
Children's Contributions

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INBRIEF

Kia unveils updated Seltos, eyes 10% market share in PVs

Kia India on Tuesday unveiled the updated version of its mid-sized SUV Seltos, as it aims to garner a 10% market share in the domestic passenger vehicle (PV) segment. The automaker, which currently has a market share of about 7% in the domestic market, also aims to double its existing sales network to 600 plus outlets from over 300. Kia will open the bookings for the model, which would be available in 18 trims, on July 14 and commence sales on July 25. PTI

TTK Healthcare revises price for buyback to ₹1,201.30/share

Chennai-based TTK Healthcare Ltd. has revised the buyback price for the proposed voluntary delisting of its shares from major bourses. On Tuesday, the maker of Woodward's Gripewater said that it had revised the buyback price to ₹1,201.30 apiece against ₹1,051.31 fixed on April 19. On April 5, the company said that its promoters had proposed to acquire all the equity shares held by public shareholders and file for voluntary delisting from the BSE and NSE.

States' average debt cost continues to rise, nears 7.5%

States continue to pay higher interest rates to investors for their debt, with the latest weighted average cost rising to 7.46% at Tuesday's auctions wherein nine states raised ₹16,200 crore. The weighted average cut-off/yield on state government securities rose by 5 bps to 7.46% in the auction held on Tuesday, from 7.41% in the last weekly auction, despite a stable weighted average tenor of 16 years, according to a note by Aditi Nayar, chief economist at Icra Ratings. PTI

Shelved 2017-18 HCES showed Maharashtra's inequality widening

Food costs crossed 40% of urban households' monthly spends in 2017-18, first time in 18 years, Household Consumption Expenditure Survey shows

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

For urban households in Maharashtra, food costs crossed 40% of monthly spends in 2017-18, for the first time in 18 years, while the food bill for their rural counterparts shot up to almost 49% of total spending, with that figure crossing 60% for the poorest 5% of households, data from the National Statistical Office's 2017-18 Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) show.

The average monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE), an indicator of living standards and purchasing power, rose 69.5% for households in urban Maharashtra to ₹4,471 in 2017-18, from ₹2,638 in 2011-12. But it was propped up solely by coastal urban areas, led by Mumbai and its neighbouring districts with an MPCE of ₹5,613, while all other regions in the State languished below the average, as per the HCES, which the Centre had junked citing data quality concerns.

The Maharashtra government has, however, published the State-level findings from the exercise conducted as part of the 75th round of the National Sample Survey (NSS).

"As the report based on Central sample data is not published by NSO, State sample results are not compared with Central sample results," Maharashtra's Director-in-charge of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics Vijay Aher stressed in his preface to the report seen by *The Hindu*. "Therefore, report can be used for academic purpose with proper caution," Mr. Aher wrote.

Rural-urban inequality and gaps between regional income levels seemed to have widened in Maharashtra, one of India's most prosperous States, as per the HCES data.

With the Centre shelving the findings of the HCES, conducted from July 2017 to June 2018, the only official estimates on consumer spending available are in the 2011-12 survey.

Rural households' average MPCE in the State grew just 43% over the same six-year period to ₹2,045, again bumped up by coastal and western areas. The MPCE for villagers in eastern Maharashtra (covers four districts including Gadchiroli) and its inland eastern region (that includes seven districts, including Nagpur) was the lowest at ₹1,469 and ₹1,754, respectively. This was barely higher than the ₹1,429 average MPCE of the State in 2011-12.

Rural folk also appear to have lost ground vis-à-vis their urban peers as their average monthly spends were just 45% of the ₹4,400-odd spent by average households in cities in 2017-18. This proportion stood at 54% in 2011-12.

For the poorest 10% of urban households, the proportion of their spends of total expenditure on food was far higher at 52%-55%, while households in the richest 5% bracket had more than 70% of spending power left even after their food bills were met.

Food costs widen gap

The food bill for Maharashtra's rural households shot up to almost 49% of total spending, shelved 2017-18 HCES data show

- Food's share of total expenditure crossed 60% for the poorest 5% of households
- Rural households' average monthly spends were just 45% of the ₹4,400 odd spent by average households in cities in 2017-18
- Average monthly per capita consumption expenditure rose over six years in urban areas, led by Mumbai

S&P says Indian firms in 'good credit shape'

Reuters
BENGALURU

Rising domestic demand in India and recovery in sectors are more than offsetting negatives

S&P Global Ratings said on Tuesday that Indian companies were in "good credit shape" due to strong growth in the country's economy and accommodative corporate balance sheets.

"By our estimates, aggregate EBITDA in fiscal 2024 will be about 50% higher than five years back for rated corporate and infrastructure entities in India," S&P said in a note. "Yet aggregate debt is hardly changed, reflecting the improvement in credit quality." Rising domestic demand in India and recovery in sectors are more than offsetting negatives, including tough global economic conditions and higher policy and borrowing rates, S&P added. India's economic growth is the highest in the region at 6.0% for 2023 and 6.9% in 2024, per S&P forecasts.

The rating agency also said that strong onshore liquidity was mitigating the impact of tough external funding conditions.

'Govt. will not impede work by start-ups'

Press Trust of India
GURUGRAM

The government will always act as a facilitator to strengthen the start-up ecosystem and not act as a regulator, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Tuesday. He said that stakeholders of this ecosystem will do self-regulation.

Addressing the Startup20 summit, the minister said the message that should go out from here is the joint commitment of all the 22 nations who have participated that the governments will not be looking at impeding the progress of the work that start-ups are doing.

Piyush Goyal

The best way is to be out of the start-ups ecosystem, he said, adding the government is not expected to start regulating or dictating or micro-managing the ecosystem. "Our role will always be that of a facilitator and I do not see the government becoming an administrator or a regulator of this sector," he said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	65,479	0.42
US Dollar	82.02	-0.13
Gold	59,280	0.21
Brent oil	76.09	0.30

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2387.70	2.20
Adani Ports	741.70	4.30
Apollo Hosp	5109.95	41.45
Asian Paints	3347.70	-11.00
Axis Bank	970.70	-11.40
Bajaj Auto	4625.40	14.75
Bajaj Finserv	1629.50	89.40
Bajaj Finance	7860.45	527.45
Bharti Airtel	865.15	-14.00
BPCL	376.65	1.35
Britannia Ind	5010.15	1.85
Cipla	1011.85	10.05
Coal India	231.80	0.15
Divis Lab	3550.10	-37.45
Dr Reddys Lab	5188.40	90.10
Eicher Motors	3401.80	-229.05
Grasim Ind	1769.55	-24.15
HCL Tech	1190.60	9.00
HDFC	2884.85	13.50
HDFC Bank	1728.20	8.40
HDFC Life	647.00	-3.70
Hero MotoCorp	3029.80	131.05
Hindalco	425.80	0.15
Hind Unilever	2700.00	-1.05
ICICI Bank	944.70	2.15
IndusInd Bank	1367.35	-13.00
Infosys	1345.15	11.45
ITC	466.35	3.10
JSW Steel	796.65	2.65
Kotak Bank	1861.70	17.75
L&T	2461.85	7.80
M&M	1464.45	-3.50
Maruti Suzuki	9647.40	-25.60
NestleIndia	22624.05	-8.50
NTPC	194.05	2.80
ONGC	161.20	-1.70
PowerGrid Corp	249.60	-0.90
Reliance Ind	2588.75	-26.95
SBI Life	1289.25	-8.70
State Bank	589.25	3.80
Sun Pharma	1048.80	16.10
TataConsumerProduct	855.55	-3.30
Tata Motors	591.45	0.65
Tata Steel	112.40	-0.70
TCS	3308.85	36.55
Tech Mahindra	1148.00	26.55
Titan	3074.65	36.35
UltraTech Cement	8411.70	-52.10
UPL	676.95	-3.35
Wipro	395.95	4.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 04

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.82	82.14
Euro	89.19	89.54
British Pound	103.96	104.38
Japanese Yen (100)	56.65	56.88
Chinese Yuan	11.34	11.38
Swiss Franc	91.37	91.74
Singapore Dollar	60.66	60.91
Canadian Dollar	61.85	62.10
Malaysian Ringitt	17.58	17.66
Australian Dollar	54.72	54.94

Source:Indian Bank

GIC affiliates to invest $663 mn in smart metering ventures

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Gem View Investment, an affiliate of GIC, Singapore, has signed a definitive agreement with India's Genus Power & Infrastructures Ltd. to set up Gem Star Platform, a Singapore-based smart metering platform, for undertaking advanced metering infrastructure service provider concessions in India.

The GIC affiliate will hold 74% stake for $600 million, while Genus will hold 26% stake in the platform with an equity investment of about $200 million. The partners have committed to an initial pipeline with a capital outlay of $2 billion over a period of three years, Genus said.

Another GIC affiliate - Chiswick Investment Pte Ltd. - has agreed to invest ₹519 crore (about $63 million) by way of preferential allotment of warrants subject to GIC electing to exercise such warrants. The money will be utilised to augment Genus's manufacturing capacity, those familiar with the deal said.

Meta to introduce Twitter challenger app Threads via Instagram this week

Reuters

Meta Platforms plans to launch a Twitter-rivalling microblogging app called Threads, days after Twitter boss Elon Musk attracted criticism by announcing a temporary cap on how many posts users can read on the social media site.

Threads is expected to be released on Thursday and will allow users to retain followers from photo-sharing platform Instagram, and keep the same username, a listing on Apple's App Store showed.

The rollout represents a direct challenge to Twitter,

which has faced numerous controversies since Mr. Musk bought the company for $44 billion in 2022.

Last week, the Tesla billionaire announced a slate of new curbs on the app, limiting the number of tweets users could view per day, prompting outcry from many Twitter users.

While alternatives – like Mastodon and Blue Sky – have seen an uptick in user numbers since Mr. Musk's acquisition, neither has been able to rival Twitter.

Instagram's adaptibility

But Instagram already has hundreds of millions of users and has a history of introducing new features based on the success of other social media.

In 2016, it added a feature called "stories" to Instagram, or user posts that disappear after a fixed amount of time, in response to the rising popularity of Snapchat.

Threads represents a credible threat to Twitter under Mr. Musk, whose attempts to boost revenues and reshape the platform in his own image have faced severe criticism.

After acquiring the company, he laid off about 80% of staff and reinstated a number of banned accounts, such as those of former U.S. President Donald Trump and conservative news site Babylon Bee.

Hundreds of advertisers, concerned by a perceived rise in harmful content on the site, paused spending with Twitter.

HP, VVDN Tech to produce $1 bn worth of servers under PLI

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

US-based Hewlett Packard Enterprise has signed an initial pact with VVDN Technologies under which they plan to produce high-end servers worth $1 billion in the next 4-5 years, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Tuesday.

The memorandum of understanding was signed within 10 days of the India-US joint statement on co-production and development of technologies.

"HP Enterprise has agreed to produce high-end servers in India under the IT Hardware PLI scheme. Under the scheme, they have signed the first MoU with VVDN Technologies. They will have production worth $1 billion in the next 4-5 years," the Union Minister for IT and Telecom told PTI.

The agreement has been signed under the government's production linked incentive (PLI) scheme which has an outlay of ₹17,000 crore over a period of five years.

Sport

Aryan swims his way to men's 1500m record in senior Nationals

AQUATICS

Sports Bureau
HYDERABAD

Aryan Nehra of Gujarat set another record in the senior National aquatics championship clocking 15:29.76 in the men's 1500m freestyle event at the Gachibowli Aquatics Complex here on Tuesday.

Record breaker

Aryan eclipsed the record set by Kushagra Rawat of Karnataka in 2021 to win the gold.

Interestingly, Rawat settled for silver on Tuesday in 15:45.62.

Aryan also set a meet record in the 800m freestyle event besides breaking the National record in the 400m freestyle event.

Winning effort: Bhavya Sachdeva who claimed the women's 800m freestyle gold. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Suvana shines

In the women's section, Suvana C. Baskar of Karnataka set a National record in the 50m backstroke with a timing of 29.63 to beat the record of Maana Patel in last year's Nationals by 0.16 second. Maana clinched silver with 29.71.

In the women's 800m freestyle, Bhavya Sachdeva of Delhi clocked 9:15.59 to win the gold.

Telangana's Vritti Agarwal took silver, her third medal in this edition, while Ananya Wala of Maharashtra settled for bronze with 9:24.67.

The results: Men: 1500m freestyle: 1. Aryan Nehra (Guj) 15:29:26, 2. Kushagra Rawat (Del) 15:45:62, 3. Advait Page (MP) 16:07:27.

200m butterfly: 1. Sajan Prakash (AIPSCB) 01:59:37, 2. Sanu Debnath (RSPB) 02:04:62, 3. Harsh Saroha (Har) 02:05:60.

Women: 800m freestyle: 1. Bhavya Sachdeva (Dli) 09:15.59, 2. Vritti Agarwal (TS) 09:17.62, 3. Ananya Wala (Maha) 09:24:67.

50m backstroke: 1. Suvana C. Baskar (Kar) 29.63, Maana Patel (Guj) 29.71, 3. Ridhima Veerendra Kumar (Kar) 30.53.

India women's team for Europe tour

HOCKEY

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Hockey India named a 20-member national women's team for the tour of Europe on Tuesday. India will first play three Tests in Germany, one against China and two against the hosts from July 16 to 19. It will then travel to Spain (July 25 to 30) to play against South Africa, England and the hosts.

The squad: Savita (Capt.), Bichu Devi Kharibam; Deep Grace Ekka (Vice capt.), Nikki Pradhan, Ishika Chaudhary, Udita, Sushila Chanu Pukhrambam; Nisha, Monika, Salima Tete, Neha, Navneet Kaur, Sonika, Baljeet Kaur, Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke, Jyoti Chhatri; Lalremsiami, Vandana Katariya, Sangita Kumari, Deepika.

Chhangte and Manisha named AIFF Players of the Year 2023

Press Trust of India
BENGALURU

India and Mumbai City FC winger Lallianzuala Chhangte was on Tuesday named the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year, on the back of his impressive performance in the Indian Super League (ISL) and for the national team.

The 26-year-old Mizoram player featured in 12 matches during the international season for India, scoring two goals and providing one assist in the 2022-23 season.

Manisha Kalyan was named as the AIFF Women Player of the Year after AIFF's Annual General Meeting here. The 21-year-old Punjab forward, who plies her trade for Cypriot first division club Apollon Ladies, beat Dalima Chhibber and Ngangbam Sweety Devi for the award. She had won the 2020-21 AIFF Women's Emerging Footballer of the Year.

Honour: Chhangte and Manisha. FILE PHOTOS: K. MURALI KUMAR & TWITTER/@INDIANFOOTBALL

The Men's Coach of the Year award went to former India player Clifford Miranda, who guided Odisha FC to Super Cup triumph and also AFC Cup qualification. Priya Parathi Valappil was named Women Coach of the Year. A former India international, Priya is the current head coach of the India women's U-17 team.

Akash Mishra and India U-17 team member Shilji Shaji were named Men's and Women's Emerging Players of the Year.

HONOURING A LEGEND

Federer receives a lengthy standing ovation at Wimbledon from fans

Roger Federer received a standing ovation for 1-1/2 minutes from the spectators as he entered the Royal Box when he was celebrated during a brief ceremony for his career on Centre Court on Tuesday. The ceremony included a video highlight reel that showed clips of Federer playing, winning and speaking at Wimbledon.

STILL IN THE MIX

Scotland scuttles Zimbabwe's chances, stays in contention

Michael Leask helped Scotland to a stunning 31-run victory over Zimbabwe on Tuesday to set up a winner-takes-all clash with the Netherlands for a place at the World Cup.
The scores: Scotland 234/8 in 50 overs (Sean Williamsn 3/41) bt Zimbabwe 203 in 41.1 overs (Ryan Burl 84, Chris Sole 3/33).

AT THE HELM

Agarkar named chairman of BCCI's senior men's selection committee

Former India all-rounder Ajit Agarkar has been appointed chairman of the senior men's selection committee. The post was lying vacant since February this year after Chetan Sharma resigned. The three-member Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC), headed by Ashok Malhotra, recommended Agarkar for the post after interviewing him virtually.

IMPRESSIVE SHOW

Philipsen takes second straight stage win; Yates stays ahead

Jasper Philipsen won a mass sprint to earn a second straight stage victory at the Tour de France on Tuesday, while Adam Yates kept the race leader's yellow jersey. Philipsen showcased his pure speed by holding off Caleb Ewan at the line to underline his credentials to win the sprinter's green jersey with another impressive performance.

Gurpreet emerges hero in India's shootout triumph

Chhetri's men claim their second title in a month after edging Kuwait in sudden-death; the regulation time ends 1-1 as Chhangte's 38th-minute goal cancels out Alkhaldi's strike

Eternal bliss! Chhetri is on cloud nine after India surmounted Kuwait's challenge in the final. K. MURALI KUMAR

SAFF CHAMPIONSHIP

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

For the second match running, Gurpreet Singh Sandhu starred for India as it beat Kuwait 5-4 on penalties (sudden-death) to lift its ninth SAFF Championship title at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium here on Tuesday.

In the penalty shootout that ensued after the tie had finished 1-1, Sunil Chhetri – via a nerveless loopy shot – Sandesh Jhingan, Lallianzuala Chhangte and Subhashish Bose scored for India while Udanta Singh missed.

For Kuwait, Mohammed Abdullah's spot-kick, the first in the sequence, clattered off the bar. However, Fawaz Alotaibi, Ahmad Aldhefeery, Abdulaziz Mahran and Shabaib Alkhaldi stretched it to sudden-death.

Once there, Naorem Mahesh slammed his penalty home before Gurpreet dived to his left to deny Kuwait captain Khaled Hajiah and gave India its second trophy in under a month. But, three hours earlier it was Kuwait that started brightly, taking the lead in the 14th minute with a blistering transition. Right-back Abdullah Albloushi was released on the overlap and his low cross into the box was tapped in by Alkhaldi.

But the Indians' mood did not dampen and they nearly equalised off the very next move. It required a diving effort from goalie Abdulrahman Marzouq to save a Chhetri shot from distance before Chhangte's rebound was cleared.

Just when India was clawing its way back, defender Anwar Ali had to be stretchered off after he pulled a muscle in his right leg. A goal down, and with a key player out, the night was turning sour for India.

However, some superb combination play in the final third in the 38th minute brought Chhetri & Co. right back into the contest and lifted the 26,000-strong crowd.

After collecting the ball from Ashique Kuruniyan on the left, Chhetri released Sahal Abdul Samad with a toe-poke. The latter unselfishly squared the ball and a sliding Chhangte finished off the move from the right. India's intensity didn't lessen even after the change of ends. In a bid to disrupt, Kuwait upped its physicality, but other than earning a few yellow cards, it did precious little.

The futility of the strategy soon evident, the visitors went back to prioritising the football over their bodies. A couple of half-chances fell their way and so it did for the Indians as the match, inevitably, slipped into extra-time.

Over the next 30 minutes, both goalkeepers were hardly threatened. India came the closest with barely minutes left on the clock, but Chhangte blasted over from a tight angle on the left flank. The fans gasped in disbelief but it was not long before they would have their hero in Gurpreet once again.

The result (final):
India 1 (Chhangte 38) drew with Kuwait 1 (Alkhaldi 14). India won 5-4 on penalties (sudden-death).

South takes on North in battle of equals

DULEEP TROPHY

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

A strong South Zone takes on North Zone in the Duleep Trophy semifinal which commences at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Wednesday.

Skipper Hanuma Vihari, Mayank Agarwal, Sai Sudarshan and Tilak Varma form the core of the South batting. Tamil Nadu southpaw Pradosh Ranjan Paul, who has had a great start to his First Class career, will look to get among the runs.

Washington Sundar, who has played for India in all three formats, is a threat with bat and ball.

On the bowling front, Karnataka's V. Kaverappa and V. Vyshak are likely to share the new ball.

The duo has impressed in the previous domestic season, with Kaverappa shining through with his ability to keep a perfect line and length.

K.V. Sasikanth, who picked up 29 wickets in seven matches for Andhra in the 2022-23 Ranji Trophy, is the third pace option.

Left-arm finger-spinner Sai Kishore can be a threat

Mayank Agarwal. FILE PHOTO

when the pitch wears down. On paper, the side holds no weakness. "We have a good balanced side. We have quality bowlers, and a good mix of youngsters and experienced batters like Mayank (Agarwal) and I. In the Duleep Trophy, you expect every match to be a tight contest," Vihari stated after training here on Tuesday.

North, which took out North East in the quarterfinal a few days ago, faces a stiff challenge. Dhruv Shorey, Nishant Sindhu and big-hitting lower-order batter Harshit Rana, centurions from the previous outing, lead the charge.

Off-spinner Pulkit Narang will play on the patience of the South batters with his nagging accuracy.

West meets Central for a shot at the title

Pranay Rajiv
BENGALURU

Star-studded West Zone will take on a buoyant Central Zone, which comes into the contest after having beaten East Zone in the quarterfinal, in the Duleep Trophy semifinal at the Alur (I) Cricket Ground here on Wednesday.

Defending champion West, captained by Priyank Panchal, boasts a hefty batting line-up with Cheteshwar Pujara, Suryakumar Yadav, Prithvi Shaw and Sarfaraz Khan building an envious spine.

West's bowling looks light compared to its batting, particularly in the absence of the Saurashtra left-arm pace duo of Jaydev Unadkat - who was picked for India's tour of West Indies - and Chetan Sakariya, who pulled out earlier this week due to an injury.

But it still has the likes of Shams Mulani, Chintan Gaja, Arzan Nagwaswalla and Tushar Deshpande (who was roped in as Sakariya's replacement) to call upon against a Central batting line-up, which didn't look assured against East.

Led by first-time captain Shivam Mavi, Central's bowling shone against East,

Pujara. FILE PHOTO: VIVEK BENDRE

with pacer Avesh Khan and left-arm spinner Saurabh Kumar doing the star turn. The latter was particularly potent in the second innings, where he took a career-best 8/64. A lot of eyes will be trained on Pujara, who will be playing his first competitive game after the WTC Final defeat to Australia, following which he was left out of the Test team for the West Indies series.

A win against Central will take Panchal's men to a record-extending 34th final and possibly to a record-breaking 19th title, going past North Zone.

Alcaraz begins his campaign in style, Rybakina survives an early setback

WIMBLEDON

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Top seed Carlos Alcaraz made a flying start to his Wimbledon campaign on Tuesday as defending women's champion Elena Rybakina recovered from a set down to reach the second round.

On a soggy day at the All England Club, most of the action took place on the covered Court One and Centre Court, where the retired Roger Federer was the main attraction.

Tennis's new golden boy Alcaraz raced through the first set against French veteran Jeremy Chardy in just 22 minutes before breaking twice in the second set. Chardy, who had previously announced that Wimbledon would be the final tournament of his career, drew first blood in the third set to lead 4-2 but Alcaraz hit back strongly, sealing a 6-0, 6-2, 7-5 win with an ace.

Rybakina, who withdrew from the Eastbourne International last week citing a virus illness, improved her serve after the first set and beat Shelby Rogers 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.

Ons Jabeur, the 2022 runner-up, eased into the second round with a 6-3, 6-3 win over Magdalena Frech of Poland.

Two-time champion Andy Murray beat fellow Briton Ryan Peniston in straight sets to reach the second round.

In the day's biggest shock, seventh-ranked Gauff slumped to a 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 defeat to fellow American Sofia Kenin, who came through qualifying.

Kenin, now ranked 128th in the world, was Australian Open champion and French Open runner-up in 2020 before injury and loss of form saw her career slip into a downward spiral.

Later in the day, World No. 2 and Australian Open champion Aryna Sabalenka entered the second round with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Panna Udvardy of Hungary.

The day in numbers

26 For the first time in 26 years, none of Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, Venus or Serena Williams will feature in the second round at SW19

355 Venus' first-round contest against Elina Svitolina was her 355th Grand Slam women's singles main draw match, equalling Navratilova for the second spot on the all-time Open era list led by Serena (423)

9 Carlos Alcaraz is the ninth man in the Open era to secure a bagel (6-0) at Slams on all three surfaces before turning 21. Becker, Sundstrom, Nystrom, Edberg, Ivanisevic, Courier, Nadal and Djokovic are the others

2 Elena Rybakina became only the second Wimbledon women's defending champion to drop a set in the opening-round after Martina Navratilova (1979 & 1991)

SECOND ROUND PICKS

MEN	WOMEN
2-Djokovic vs Thompson	1-Swiatek vs Sorribes Tormo
7-Rublev vs Karatsev	28-Mertens vs Svitolina
4-Ruud vs Broady	4-Pegula vs Bucsa
8-Sinner vs Schwartzman	5-Garcia vs Fernandez

COMPILED BY NIHIT SACHDEVA

THE RESULTS

First round: Men: 1-Alcaraz (Esp) bt Chardy (Fra) 6-0, 6-2, 7-5; Murray (GBr) bt Peniston (GBr) 6-3, 6-0, 6-1.
Women: 3-Rybakina (Kaz) bt Rogers (USA) 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; 6-Jabeur (Tun) bt Frech (Pol) 6-3, 6-3; Kenin (USA) bt 7-Gauff (USA) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2; Fernandez (Can) bt Kozlova (Ukr) 6-4, 4-6, 6-4; 2-Aryna Sabalenka (Blr) bt Udvardy (Hun) 6-3, 6-1.

'We created memories, proved what we can do when given time and space'

The Indian wall: Gurpreet came to the fore in yet another dramatic finish. K. MURALI KUMAR

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

India head coach Igor Stimac said that the SAFF Championship win was proof of what the team can achieve when given the time and space to work.

Enjoy the game
"This was good, we created memories and we proved once again to everyone [that] when we are given the time to work together, to create an environment which can produce results for Indian football, then we are successful as a team and you can enjoy the game we play," the Croat said after the triumph over Kuwait in the final. "Otherwise, neither my players nor the staff are taking responsibility for the results in the future if we are not given the time to work together."

The 55-year-old said that the victory, though important, will not have much of a bearing on the preparations for the 2023 AFC Asian Cup to be played early next year.

Far away
"The Asian Cup is far away. The most important time for the National team of India to prepare well for the Asian Cup is December. We are looking to get minimum four weeks' preparation. The rest doesn't matter."

INBRIEF

Sindhu slips to 15th in latest badminton World rankings

India's P.V. Sindhu slipped three places to the 15th spot in women's singles in the latest BWF World rankings released on Tuesday. Sindhu, who dropped out of the top-10 in April, has 51,070 points from 13 tournaments. .

Other Indian rankings: Men's singles: H.S. Prannoy (8); Lakshya Sen (19); K. Srikanth (20); **Doubles:** R. Satwiksairaj & Chirag Shetty (3); M.R. Arjun & Dhruv Kapila (26). **Women's doubles:** Treesa Jolly & Gayatri Gopichand (17). **Mixed doubles:** Rohan Kapoor & N. Sikki (33).

14-member Indian team named for Asian youth TT

The selection committee of Table Tennis Federation of India on Monday named a 14-member team, consisting of seven boys and seven girls, to participate in the 27th Asian youth championships in Doha from July 17 to 22. It is a qualification event for the 2023 ITTF World Youth Championships at Nova Garcia, Slovenia, from November 23 to December 3.

The teams: Boys: Ankur Bhattacharjee, Divyan Srivastava, Jash Modi, P.B. Abhinand, Sarth Mishra, Punit Biswas and Priyanuj Bhattacharyya. **Girls:** Yashaswini Ghorpade, Suhana Saini, Jennifer Varghese, Taneesha Kotecha, Avisha Karmakar, Sayanika Maji and Sayali Wani. **Coaches:** Anindita Chakraborty, Jay Modak and R. Rajesh.

Parth claims the top spot in recurve men's ranking round

Parth Salunkhe scored 672 points to take the top spot in the ranking round of recurve men's under-21 individual category in the World youth archery championships at Limerick, Ireland, on Tuesday. Aishwarya Sharma finished atop the compound women's under-18 individual chart with 401 points. India also topped the compound men, women and mixed team rankings.

The results (ranking rounds): U-21: Recurve: Individual: Men: Parth Salunkhe (first, 672), Rohit Kumar (ninth, 647), Aditya Choudhary (20th, 638). **Women:** Ridhi Phor (12th, 623), Bhajan Kaur (19th, 618), Bhargaviben Bhagora (20th, 618). **Team: Men:** India (second, 1957); **Women:** India (fifth, 1859); **Mixed:** India (third, 1295). **Compound: Individual: Men:** Priyansh (second, 701), Prathamesh Jawkar (fourth, 697), Kushal Dalal (sixth, 696). **Women:** Avneet Kaur (second, 690), Parneet Kaur (third, 686), Pragati (fourth, 683). **Team: Men:** India (first, 2094); **Women:** India (first, 2059); **Mixed:** India (first, 1391).

Brazil legend Marta says 2023 World Cup will be her last

Brazil star Marta said that the 2023 FIFA World Cup, her sixth, will be her last. The 37-year-old legend is yet to lift the World Cup trophy in five previous attempts. "I can only be thankful to have lived all those years in the national team," added Brazil's all-time leading scorer.

Jota joins Benzema and Kante at Saudi champion Al-Ittihad

Portuguese winger Jota swapped Scotland for Saudi Arabia after completing a move from Celtic to Al-Ittihad. He has signed a three-year contract and will join up with Karim Benzema and N'Golo Kante at the Saudi champion. "Jota.. is.. officially yellow," the club tweeted when announcing the arrival of yet another European-based player to the country's lucrative Pro League.

Vultures CC wins KSCA u-19 inter-club tournament

Vultures CC emerged champion of the KSCA under-19 inter-club tournament in Bengaluru. In the final held at RSI ground, Sujan Nandan's 134 powered Vultures to a big total against Swastic Union (2). Vultures won on the basis of gaining the first-innings lead.

The score: Final: Vultures CC 402/9 in 90 overs (Srujan Nandan 134, Arnav Mishra 77, C.R. Kumarswamy 35, K.P. Karthikeya 42, N. Samarth 35, Shikhar Shetty 40 n.o., S.A. Sachin 4/83) drew with Swastic Union (2) 297 in 56 overs (S.U. Karthik 67, M.B. Shivam 69, Dheeraj Gowda 44, S.A. Sachin 39, Prabhu Sasalatti 44, Adithya Nair 3/38, Shikhar Shetty 3/90) and 159/5 in 24 overs (M.B. Shivam 27, Dheeraj Gowda 65, Gaurov Shanbhag 3/50).

LIVE TELECAST

CWC Qualifiers: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), Hotstar & FanCode, 12.30 p.m.

Bangladesh vs Afghanistan: 1st ODI, FanCode, 1.30 p.m.

The Championships: Star Sports 2, SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 3.30 p.m. onwards

TNPL: Star Sports 3 & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.

FIH Pro League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 9.40 p.m.

Branding me a Test player is not fair, says Vihari; wants to play all formats

I have grown as a white-ball player, but many don't want to believe that, says the batter who nurtures aspirations of making a comeback in the IPL

CRICKET

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Many would believe that Hanuma Vihari has been given a raw deal.

Vihari was left out of the Indian team after the one-off Test in England last year, despite a decent run of scores leading up to this snub.

Hope springs eternal: Vihari is confident of winning back his Test spot. GETTY IMAGES

Great praise

It was in early 2021 that Vihari had earned great praise for showing exemplary fight to deny Australia a win in the third Test at Sydney.

However, this was not enough to keep his Test spot. It seems that the selectors have moved on, even if there have been calls for a batting overhaul in the aftermath of India's defeat to Australia in the ICC World Test Championship final.

For Vihari, who is leading the South Zone team in the Duleep Trophy here, there is hope yet. He can look to Ajinkya Rahane for inspiration. Rahane made a comeback at the WTC final after an 18-month gap, and has since been elevated as vice-captain.

"Ajinkya made a comeback at 35 – that's a good sign. This proves that if the player has quality, there is always time to make a comeback. I am only 29, so I have a lot of time," Vihari said here on Tuesday.

Vihari acknowledges that Rahane's return was strengthened by his grand show in the IPL. Vihari, however, does not compete in the IPL, which denies him the visibility associated with the high-profile tournament.

The batter last got a consistent run in the IPL in 2013, when he played 17 matches for Sunrisers Hyderabad. He played two more seasons, in 2015 and 2019, where he got only five and two outings respectively.

Being branded a Test player is not fair, Vihari believes. "I was doing commentary during the IPL. There's nothing you can do about it. I had done well in the IPL when I was 19 (in 2013), but I didn't get many chances after that. I have grown as a white-ball player, but many don't want to believe that because they have already branded me as a Test player.

"It's not fair. A quality player can play in all three formats. Hopefully, I can make a comeback in the IPL and the white-ball format as well, if nothing else, to be seen by the public. Many players seem to be making their comebacks (in Tests) after putting up good performances in the IPL, in T20s. Going forward, I want to play all formats of the game," Vihari said.

The middle-order batter is reportedly set to move from Andhra to Madhya Pradesh for the upcoming domestic season.

"It is not confirmed yet, so I don't want to comment. Leading South Zone is a privilege. We reached the final under my captaincy last year, and this time we want to go one step further and win the title," Vihari said.

Dhull named India-A captain for Emerging Asia Cup

CRICKET

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Yash Dhull was named captain of India-A for the Emerging Asia Cup one-day tournament to be held in Sri Lanka from July 13 to 23. Abhishek Sharma will be Dhull's deputy.

India-A is in Group B with Nepal, UAE-A and Pakistan-A while Sri Lanka-A, Bangladesh-A, Afghanistan-A and Oman-A form Group A. Nepal will be fielding its senior team for the tournament.

The India-A squad: Yash Dhull (Capt.), Abhishek Sharma (vice-capt.), Sai Sudharsan, Nikin Jose, Pradosh Ranjan Paul, Riyan Parag, Nishant Sindhu, Prabhsimran Singh (wk), Dhruv Jurel (wk), Manav Suthar, Yuvrajsinh Dodiya, Harshit Rana, Akash Singh, Nitish Kumar Reddy, and Rajvardhan Hangargekar. **Standbyes:** Harsh Dubey, Nehal Wadhera, Snell Patel, and Mohit Redkar.

Head coach: Sitanshu Kotak; **Bowling coach:** Sairaj Bahutule; **Fielding coach:** Munish Bali.

India's schedule: July 13: vs UAE-A; **July 15:** vs Pakistan-A; **July 18:** vs Nepal. **July 21:** Semifinals; **July 23:** Final.

The last year has been very good and I am happy to get recognition: Sai Sudharsan

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

B. Sai Sudharsan and Pradosh Ranjan Paul were busy getting ready for red-ball cricket on the eve of their maiden Duleep Trophy campaign when the duo received more good news on Tuesday evening.

The two Tamil Nadu left-handed batters were selected in the India-A squad for the ACC Men's Emerging Teams Asia Cup 2023 beginning in Sri Lanka next week.

Pradosh Ranjan Paul. FILE PHOTO

Sai Sudharsan. FILE PHOTO

Dream realised

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Sai Sudharsan said, "It is a dream come true and very exciting, but at the same time, it is just the start.

"The last year has been very good, and I am happy I got recognition."

For the 21-year-old, this is the first time he will be part of a national-level squad.

Sai Sudharsan has been in prolific form in the shorter formats, both in IPL and the TNPL, and has been working hard the last week to prepare for First Class cricket.

Unlike Sai Sudharsan, it was a welcome return to the National-level for Pradosh Ranjan Paul, who has represented the country in under-19, though he missed out on the junior World Cup.

"It feels good to be back at an India-level team after five years. After not being picked for the U-19 World Cup, I knew my path would be hard and long. There were ups and downs, but am happy to have been given this opportunity," said Pradosh.

Bagan fans give Martinez a rousing reception

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

The city's passionate football fans came together to welcome Emiliano Martinez, the World Cup-winning goalkeeper of Argentina, as he came calling at Mohun Bagan.

Some 5000 members and ardent fans gathered to witness their favourite 'Dibu' who had helped Argentina lift the World Cup for the third time last year in Qatar. Martinez, elated at receiving such an overwhelming reception, spread his arms in acknowledgement saying "I love you Kolkata."

Bagan, which has previously hosted Pele and Diego Maradona, presented the club colours to Martinez.

The towering goalkeeper put on the green-and-maroon jersey before taking a tour around the ground

Vasanti & Anastasia pair enters the last eight

INDIANS ABROAD

Sports Bureau

Vasanti Shinde and Anastasia Zolotareva beat Alexandra Osborne and Rebeca Pereira 6-2, 6-3 in the pre-quarterfinals of the $60,000 ITF women's tennis tournament in Montpellier, France, on Tuesday.

Other results:

$15,000 ITF women, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Thailand: Singles (first round): Shinjji Hazawa (Jpn) bt Sidharth Rawat 6-3, 6-1.

Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Ryuki Matsuda & Hikaru Shiraishi (Jpn) bt Digvijay Pratap Singh & Karan Singh 6-7(4), 6-3, [10-12].

$25,000 ITF women, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Thailand: Singles (first round): Punnin Kovapitukted (Tha) bt Smriti Bhasin 6-2, 6-3.

Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Shrivalli Bhamidipaty &Vaidehi Chaudhari bt Pawinee Ruamrak & Jjulaluck Sae-eung (Tha) 6-1, 6-3; Soha Sadiq & Sahaja Yamalapalli bt Ahn Yujin (Kor) & Ikumi Yamazaki (Jpn) 6-3, 3-6, [10-6]; Rutuja Bhosale & Erika Ssema (Jpn) bt Humera Habarmus & Smriti Bhasin 6-3, 6-3.

$15,000 ITF women, Tianjin, China: Singles (first round): Cao Yajinng (Chn) bt Laalitya Kalluri 6-0, 2-6, 6-0.

The spirit of the game has to be taken in the right spirit

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

Jonny Bairstow went for a walk with the ball still in play, and was stumped. The laws of the game say he was out. The spirit of the game suggested (not demanded, for you cannot impose the spirit on anybody) that he ought to have been recalled by Australian captain Pat Cummins. But the spirit has to be a two-way street - we shall come to that in a moment. First, let's enjoy some of the reactions.

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, whose rise to the top job had something to do with him stumping his predecessor, thought Australia had contravened the spirit of cricket. Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said he was proud of the winning Australian men's and women's teams and that his country was right behind Pat Cummins and Alyssa Healy (the captain of the women's team). It was unclear whether he (as opposed to his country) thought it was right or wrong to stump Bairstow.

Forthright comments

Former cricketers have been more forthright. Brendon McCullum, England's coach says he will not be having a beer with the opposition any time soon. My heart bleeds for the opposition. Australia should issue a public apology, says Geoff Boycott. They doubtless will, as soon as Britain apologises to Australia for the genocide and dispossession of their indigenous peoples that came with British invasion and occupation.

Were there vestiges of colonial arrogance in what England did? Are they telling Australia that fair play is what they decide it is? Is Bazball the only way to play the game? England controlled the cricketing narrative for decades till other nations - former colonies - caught up and then overtook them.

And now with Bazball are they attempting to control the narrative again? If all that sounds faintly ridiculous, that's because it probably is. A dozy batsman was stumped at a crucial point in a Test and it becomes a battle between the stiff upper lip and the suntanned limb.

In identical circumstances, England would have done the identical thing. Had the ball missed the stumps, wouldn't Bairstow have attempted a single? Sadly, the 'spirit' usually comes accompanied by hypocrisy, which is why there is a cry for removing the grey areas in the laws.

Moral choices

Cricket is unique in that it gives individuals and teams a chance to make moral choices that are in areas beyond the laws. Making the laws water tight is not a solution, for the ambiguity between what is legal and what is sportsmanlike is what reveals character. And cricket is about revealing character; players must be given an opportunity to choose.

Despite the change in emphasis in the law on running out a non-striker backing up, some bowlers will still not do it. Bairstow wasn't attempting a single, but he is an experienced international batsman who ought to have known better. Would he have gone for a walk had a spinner been bowling and Alex Carey had been standing up to the wicket?

It is surprising how international players are ignorant (or affect to be) of the laws of the game. Australia were upset when the catch Mitchell Starc took was disallowed because he dragged the ball on the ground. Either they don't know the law or feel it has to be 'My country right or wrong', a dangerous attitude on a sports field.

'Two-way street'

Which brings us to the spirit being a two-way street. It might have been good PR for Cummins to recall Bairstow, and let us assume he did, in the interests of the 'spirit' (a good thing to have in the game, but now being increasingly ridiculed). What ought to be Bairstow's response then? For the spirit to work as it should, Bairstow would then have to throw his wicket away next ball. He was out legally, then given a reprieve by the 'spirit', and now he ought to return 'spirit' with 'spirit'.

You can argue this will be against the interests of his team, but then so was setting out for a walk with the ball still in play. Did no one in the team – captain, players, coaching staff – notice that Bairstow had done it before and ought to be told?

Another problem with the spirit is that it often takes focus away from the performances – in this case Australia's all-round superiority, and Ben Stokes's stunning century. Controversy never hurt the gates, though.